

# KOONCE to KOONCE

January 1997

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Volume 4 Issue 1

## KORNEGAY / KOONCE

*(Ed. note: This story came to me by way of the internet e-mail. Unfortunately I didn't make a note of who sent it. Although it is not a story directly about Koonces, it so closely connects with the Koonces and the areas they came from and settled in when they arrived in this country I decided to run it because of it's valuable research information. George Kornegay and George Koonce could and have been mistaken for each other. They are two different people.)*

Copied from a newspaper clipping Feb 16, 1937, by Mrs. Lois W. Howard

In compiling this research it was noted that the name "KORNEGAY" was often misspelled. Oftentimes such errors in spelling were entered into the records because the majority of the census takers were poorly educated and not well paid or informed of how to take censuses. They often spelled the names phonetically.

By 1709 the Palatine Colony, the people who settled that area of southwest Germany which includes the wine regions of the Rhine and Moselle valleys, the Black Forest, and some of the loveliest country found on earth, found that their region had long been wracked by unceasing wars fueled by religious differences and the power drives of the crowned heads of middle Europe. The armies of Louis XIV had been the latest to plunder the Palatines, and his victories meant special trouble for those of the Protestant faith.

In the latter part of 1709 about 600 immigrants from the German Upper Palatinate of the Rhine went to England. They stayed for a short time and sailed from Gravesend, down the Thames from London, December 26, 1709 (old style Julian Calendar) or about January 6, 1710, (new style Gregorian Calendar, our present calendar) under the sponsorship of Baron Christopher de Graffenreid.

The Palatines had a bad crossing. Many died during the three-month winter voyage across the north Atlantic, and their ship carried them off course to the mouth of the James

River off Jamestown, Virginia. Here they were pursued by one of Louis XIV's French warships which overtook them in the river and took everything including the ship's rowboats and the clothes from their backs. The first Konegays in America waded ashore naked and shivering in March 1710. The inhabitants of Jamestown were startled to see naked people wading ashore from the stripped vessel; but when they regained their composure, the people of Jamestown were kind to the "poor Palatines" and provided them with food, blankets, and shelter. The Virginians helped them to go overland to nearby North Carolina. There the North Carolina settlers along the Albemarle Sound arranged to help them go by boats through inland waters of the Sound to the mouth of Neuse River where they were to settle. When they arrived, however, they found their land had not been cleared of its Indian title by John Lawson, the Surveyor General of the Colony. As de Graffenreid had supposedly arranged. The settlers had no way of knowing the Baron's finances were shaky and he was forced to mortgage the tract, on which they had settled. Thus their land titles were unsound and were later lost by foreclosure.

Most of the Colony settled on the Trent River and the Kornegay family settled on Chinquapin Creek, a small stream which flows from the north into Trent River. They founded the town of New Bern in Craven County. By early summer de Graffenreid had arrived and matters had so sufficiently progressed that a late crop was planted. In September about 1,500 Swiss immigrants, mostly French-Swiss, arrived, also under the sponsorship of de Graffenreid. A more disastrous event, however, descended upon their ranks before they lost their land because of the foreclosure. On September 21, 1711, when their first full-growth crop was ready for harvesting, the Tuscarora who ranged in that part of North Carolina suddenly and unexpectedly went on the warpath and

massacred a large number of the white people including many of the outlying settlers on the Trent and Neuse Rivers above New Bern. This began an Indian war which lasted nearly three years--until the Tuscarora were finally given an all-but-overwhelming defeat at their Fort Norohoko which stood about three or four miles east on Hookerton's present site in Greene County, North Carolina. More than 1,000 Indian men, women, and children were slain in the last great battle for Fort Norohoko.

After the Tuscarora moved up north to join their relatives of Iroquois who had a confederation in New York state, called the Five Nations, this became the Six Nations which we hear much about during the American Revolution many years later. The uprising of the Indians took the Kornegay family by surprise and they were wiped out except for George Kornegay, who was about nine years of age at that time. Young George Koonce, also about nine years old, was the sole survivor of the Swiss family Koonce. The two George's were taken away by the Tuscarora but were freed by militiamen a few months later. The court at New Bern bound them out to Jacob Mueller (later changed to Miller), a Swiss schoolmaster and Justice of the Peace, at New Bern, who raised them.

Jacob Miller had grown sons and his near neighbors helped him put up a fight which drove the Indians off his place. In the court records of Bath County (Craven Precinct) we find that Jacob Miller was ordered to teach the two George's to read and write before the orphans reached the age of twenty-one years. Both George's grew up and became landowners in North Carolina. George Kornegay had secured large amounts of land and a great many slaves. The records of Craven County, as well as Jones County, after 1779 have a considerable number of records relating to the Kornegay's. (Jones County is most of Craven Co. and Craven Co. is now smaller.)

In the North Carolina Archives there is a

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## EDITORS CORNER

by John Paul Koonce



Thanksgiving Day 1996—

Nancy & I arrived at the home of Hazel Smith in Mulberry Grove, IL about 2:00 PM. Mike Johnson, of Smithboro, IL, came over for a short visit. Nancy & I had not met Mike before. He is a descendant of James Russell Koonce, DVS 1856-1925, of Mulberry Grove. After a short visit Mike & I went about three miles to Bear Grove Township in Fayette Co. to see a Cemetery Mike and his wife Betty found. It is names the Causey Cemetery. After about 50 years of neglect, Mike and Betty cut trees, brush & grass, filled n a deep washout, Repaired and stood up broken & fallen Stones, They found 27 markers with names and dates and one old brick simply hand carved with the names Edith & William.

The cemetery is on Bear Grove township road just north and across from where the Koonce Chapel use to be.

At this writing we do not know much about this Koonce Chapel except it was still used as late as 1940.

Mike & Betty have put ads in the local papers with no luck.

Beautonne McKeen has seen articles about it while reading old Greenville Advocate microfilm. Hazel Smith, 91, & Woody Koonce 81 remember it but don't

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## GRANDSONS OF JAMES R. KOONCE ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED FROM MULBERRY GROVE

(Greenville, Illinois Advocate/1918, 30 December—North Carolina Koonce line)

Two boys, Fred Hampton, aged 12 years, and Laurel Hampton, aged 10, were kidnapped, it is alleged, by their own father, Louis Hampton, at Mulberry Grove, Christmas day. The two boys were in the custody of their grandparents, Dr. and Mrs. James R. Koonce, at Mulberry Grove, where they made their home, custody having been awarded them by the court, following the divorce of the parents several years ago.

By the terms of the divorce, the father had the privilege of visiting the boys, and he made one of his trips to Mulberry Grove from East St. Louis, where he is employed, on Christmas morning. He and the boys disappeared and have not yet been located.

The mother, who was formerly Miss Dessie Koonce, had been working at Decatur, but is now at the home of her parents in Mulberry Grove. Sheriff Wilson was notified of the alleged kidnapping Saturday morning. It is said the boys were taken to St. Louis. The following descriptions were furnished Sheriff Wilson:

Fred Hampton, aged 12 in March, dark brown hair cut short pompadour, gray eyes, small scar on forehead; was wearing blue serge suit, white blouse with black Windsor tie, checked mackinaw coat and light colored cap, when last seen.

Laurel Hampton, aged 10, dark brown hair cut long pompadour, dark brown eyes; was wearing blue serge suit, white blouse with black Windsor tie, double-breasted overcoat, black and white mixed dark cap. Both boys have fair complexion, and weigh from sixty to seventy pounds. Both wore 1919 red Cross button on coats.

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## HAMPTON BOYS ARE FOUND SAFE IN ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI WITH THEIR FATHER

(Greenville Illinois Advocate/1919, 2 January)

A new angle to the alleged kidnapping of Fred Hampton aged, 12 and Laurel Hampton, aged 10, by their own father, Louis Hampton, as reported to Sheriff Wilson by Dr. Jas. R. Koonce of Mulberry Grove, was given Wednesday by Mrs. Sarah Hampton of this city, mother of Louis Hampton.

Mrs. Hampton said her son, Louis, was at her home in Greenville on Christmas Day; that he telephoned to Jas. R. Koonce at Mulberry Grove where the two children were making their home, and asked if the children could come to Greenville. Mrs. Hampton stated Mr. Koonce gave his consent and said he would send the children over on the morning train. Mr. Hampton replied that he would go over for the children on the 9 o'clock train, which he did. When he arrived at Mulberry Grove the two boys were at the depot waiting for him, said Mrs. Hampton, and her son brought them to Greenville where they remained the rest of the day.

On Christmas night Mr. Hampton took the boys to St. Louis, according to the statement made by Mrs. Hampton yesterday. The children are with their father there. Mrs. Hampton also stated that Mr. Koonce called her up over the telephone and asked her to send the children home and she told him that Louis had taken them home with him to St. Louis. Mrs. Hampton stated Mr. Koonce knew, from her, that the boys were in St. Louis with their father before he gave Sheriff Wilson a description of them.

Louis Hampton is manager of a large packing house in St. Louis.

# KORNEGAY / KOONCE

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court recording of Bath County, Craven Precinct (now Craven County) in Minutes Book 1, page 4, dated January 21, 1712/13 (really 1713 since the court year ended March 15 rather than December 31), in which the following entry is found: "Whereas Jacob Miller, Esquire, declares to ye court yt he ye aforesaid Jacob Miller, Esquire, hath in his keeping two orphan children viz. Geo. Kneegge and Geo. Conis and it is ordered yt. ye said Jacob Miller, Esquire, teaches ye said orphans to read and write before ye said orphans arrives to ye age of twenty one years. Ordered it be recorded and it is recorded." (The 'y' in words like "ye" and "yt" is the old Germanic letter 'thou' and is pronounced as a "th." "Yt." then means "that" and "ye" was used for "the").

GEORGE KORNEGAY (1) was married to a widow Susannah Stevens about 1724. Records indicate that they had a large family of nine sons and one daughter: DANIEL (I.), ELIJAH (I), JOHN (M.?), JACOB (I), GEORGE (II), WILLIAM (1), DAVID (1), JOSEPH(I), ABRAHAM (I), and, at last, a daughter, MARY. Since the 1742 Council meeting mentioned below indicated that GEORGE (1) had ten persons in his family, it is assumed by the author that ABRAHAM and Mary were born after that date.

GEORGE KORNEGAY (1) was among those Palatines who petitioned King George for relief, and he received several land grants by the Colonial Council in Craven and Duplin Counties, North Carolina, between the years 1736 and 1757. The Colonial Records of North Carolina, page 447, show the following record: .. Read Sundry Petitions for Patents Viz (as follows): .. George Kernegee 640 D 0 .. Granted." In the Craven County Book, page 417, the following record is found: "Palatine or German Chapel August 2, 1740. On Trent River., southside between ferry and John Kinsey's plantation for the use of The High Germans and The Church of England". George Cornegue is among the several signers or subscribers for building said Chapel. At another Council meeting in 1742 he was permitted to prove his right for land and listed ten persons in his family and six slaves. He must have been a relatively rich man to have had so many slaves because very few people at that time had slaves.

GEORGE's (I) land in Duplin County, described by metes and bounds, included the Kornegay old burying ground near Alum Springs and Kornegay's Bridge where he lived for a time. In 1754 and 1755 GEORGE (I) was a member of the Duplin Foot Militia Returns. Assuming his year of birth was 1702, GEORGE

would have been about 52 years old while serving in the militia. GEORGE KORNEGAY (I) died in Craven County, North Carolina, on November 1, 1773. Another source states he died in Duplin County near Alum Springs in 1773. An abstract of his will reads as follows: Kornegay, George Craven County November 2, 1773. Sons: Daniel Elijah (land in Dobbs Co. on Falling Creek) John, Jacob, George (250 acres of land in the fork of the Beaverdam in Duplin Co.) William, David, Joseph (500 acres of land on the Northeast of Cape Fear). Abraham. Daughter: Mary DeBruhl. Executors: John., Jacob and George Kornegay (sons). Witnesses: John Granade, Morgan Smith Sanders, Ruben Andrews. Proven before Jo. Martin.

It would be interesting to know whether each son received the specified amount of land or that land was to be divided between the sons. Either way, George (I) had acquired a large amount of land during his life.

The descendants of George (I) should be very proud of their heritage for he must have been a very brave, courageous, and determined young man. The journey from Germany to England must have been quite an experience for him. Then for George (I) to have braved the terrible crossing of the Atlantic Ocean, to have endured the encounter of the French warships as his ship was coming into the James River, to have made the overland trip from Jamestown to the area of New Bern, North Carolina, to have experienced seeing his family massacred during the Indian uprising, to have been taken captive by the Indians for several months, and finally to have been awarded by the court to a family he probably barely knew, he experienced trials which no little boy should have been subjected. Perhaps all these experiences were what made him so determined to succeed in the new world.

## FAMILY OF WILLIAM KORNEGAY (I)

William Kornegay (I), the sixth son of George (I) and Susannah (Stevens) Kornegay, was born about 1762 in Duplin County, North Carolina. He was given lands by his father's Will on the North East River in Duplin County and lived in the fork of North East and Goshen with his wife Elizabeth (Outlaw) Kornegay. According to a family record, Elizabeth was born about 1742 in Duplin County. This would have made her about 20 years younger than William. Elizabeth was the daughter of Edward and Patience

(Whitfield) Outlaw. William and Elizabeth had a large family of four sons and three daughters. Their names were William , David, Issac, George, Zilphia, Elizabeth (Betty), and Nancy Kornegay. According to the 1784-1787 State Census of NC., Duplin County, William had five males under the age of 21 and above 60 and three females in his household at that time, excluding him and his wife. He also had two Negroes between the ages of 12 and 50. By 1790 when the first Federal census was taken, there were two males 16 years old and up, three males under the age of 16, and two females. The number of slaves had increased from two to 12, so he evidently bought or was given some.

Marion F. Shannon, Belzoni, Mississippi, states, "I understand my husband's ancestor, WILLIAM was a soldier, but I have not found proof yet." His name does not appear in any of the record books and would have been about 13 years old when the Revolution started.

## MONUMENT TO THE PALATINES

(New Bern Journal, Jan. 11, 1914) New Bern will yet have a memorial to the de Graffenried Colonists who more than two hundred years ago sailed up Neuse River and founded the city. Several months ago a committee composed of S. M. Brinson, L. I. Moore, R. S. Nunn, H. K. Land, and Owen G. Dunn were appointed to assist in this work. For one cause and another the movement has been allowed to lag and but very little had been done during the past few months. Sometime ago Miss Sybil Hyatt of Kinston who is greatly interested in eugenic and genealogical work, became interested in the Palatines and Swiss who were among de Graffenreid colonist and wrote to Mr. Brinson asking him to call a meeting so that the proposed plans for erecting this memorial to them might be gone into. The meeting was held last night in the office of A. D. Ward. The committee named above was present as was Senator F. M. Simmons who is also greatly interested in the movement, Miss Hyatt, of Kinston and Mrs. George Green. After the meeting had been called to order and the work on the memorial which hitherto been done was discussed, the Palatine Memorial Association was formed. Senator Simmons was permanent chairman of this organization, Honorable S. M. Brinson was made Vice-Chairman and treasurer, R. A. Dunn, Secretary, Miss Hyatt general genealogist and Mrs. George Green, assistant genealogist.

The purpose of this organization is to trace the descendants of the Palatines, many of whom are living in the South today, and to issue to them certificates of membership in the association. The ancestral names will also be

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placed on the memorial. It is claimed that de Graffenreid brought with him only the highest class of people and the descendants of these should be proud of their ancestors.

The following persons have been selected to look up the lineage of the families whose names they follow:

CROOM—Miss Lida T. Rodman, Washington, N.C.  
ISLER—Dr. J.Y. Joyner, Raleigh, N.C.  
MOORE—Hon. O.H. Allen, Kinston, N.C.  
WALLACE—Hon. C.S. Wallace, Morehead City, N.C.  
SIMMONS—Hon. F.M. Simmons, New Bern, N.C.  
FRANCK—Mr. J.M. Franck, Richlands, N.C.  
MILLER—Mr. E.L. Miller, 407 Jackson, K C, MO.  
KINSEY—Mr. Joseph Kinsey, LaGrange, N.C.  
HARGETT—Mr. F.W. Hargett, Jacksonville, N.C.  
KOONCE—Mrs. Inez Koonce Stacy, Chapel Hill, N.C.  
ORMOND—Mr. Y.T. Ormond, Kinston, N.C.  
BROCK—Mrs. G.H. Herring, Kinston, N.C.  
ERNUL—Mrs. L.V. Archbell, Kinston, N.C.  
BERNARD—Prof Bernard, Chapel Hill, N.C.  
FENNER, KORNEGAY, RICHARDS, MARKET SHEETS, GRIST, WALKER, BUSIT, MORRIS, IPOCK, TEACHEY, and GARNTTO are names of some of the other families of the area.

There are many other families and the association will at once begin the task of looking them up. Anyone having old wills, deeds, or other documents on the subject are requested to send them registered to Miss Hyatt at Kinston. The work of securing funds for the monument is not to begin at once, the members of the association deciding to devote their time to pursuing their search for descendants during the next month. The genealogical data will begin running in the January issue of Carolina and The Southern Cross, Kinston, North Carolina

From the Kinston, (N.C.) Daily Press, Oct. 11, 1929. Dr. Cobb's Speech on the Palatines. Dr. Cotter Cobb, of the tint. of N.C., who was born near here, was the principle speaker at the annual meeting of the Society of Descendants of the Palatines in Kinston, Oct. 9. His interesting address was actually a brief history of the Palatines. The address in part follows: "Each one of us is an omnibus on which all his ancestors ride; and the direction we take and the speed we make depend on which forefather is driving." The hold that heredity has on us, stated in the first clause of the sentence, must bring us pause and thought when we consider the second clause. Which ancestor is driving us? There are several in the audience who have ten generations between them and the ancestor from the Palatinate, of whom they are so proud; and you must be very far from certain that he is the one of your 1,024 ancestors of 10 generations ago who drives your omnibus. "Now if you will review the history of the Palatines in America, you will see that it brings into play the three principles-

-just stated as determining man's on going.

"The Palatinate was a name applied to two little countries of the Old German Empire, the Upper Palatinate and the Lower or Renish Palatinate, which were politically connected until 1620. The Palatinate was originally a feudal district whose ruler the Count Palatine, a prince of the Holy Roman Empire, exercised all the prerogatives of a king. These Counts Palatine were so paternal in their government that their people, rather than subjects, took pride in calling themselves the Palatines. The Lower Palatinate (UNTERPFALZ), the division with which we are chiefly concerned was made up of territory on both sides of the Rhine, embraced roughly within the space marked off by the cities of Mainz, Worms, Heilbronn, Landau, and Zweibrücken. It included the Electoral Palatinate with Heidelberg, and for a time Mannheim, as its capitol; the principality of Simmern, the Duchy of Zweibrücken (DeuxPont), the principalities of Fелденz and Lautern, and some others. Its capitol was Heidelberg.

The first Count Palatine of the Rhine was Hermann I, who ruled from 945 until 996, and although the office was not hereditary it appears to have been held mainly by his descendants until the death of Count Hermann III in 1155. In 1155 the German King, Frederick I, appointed his step-brother Conrad as Count Palatine. In 1214, on the death of the reigning count, the Palatinate was given by the German King Frederick II to Otto, the infant son of Louis I, Duke of Bavaria. The Palatinate was ruled by Louis of Bavaria on behalf of his son until 1228, when it passed to Otto, who ruled until his death in 1353.

"When the possessions of the house of Wittelsbach were founded, a dispute arose over the exercise of the electoral vote, and the question was not settled until in 1356 the Golden Bull bestowed the privilege upon the Count Palatine of the Rhine, who exercised it until 1623. The Palatinate was divided among the 4 sons of the German King Rupert in 1410, but in 1559, on the extinction of the senior line, Frederick, Count Palatine of Simmern, succeeded to the Palatinate, becoming the elector Frederick III.

"This Frederick III was the elector who introduced Calvinism in the Palatinate and made it the established religion. Under his direction the Heidelberg Catechism was drawn up. He aided the French Huguenots and extended his protection to Protestant refugees of every sect, especially to the Protestants of France. He was often called by

his admirers the "Alfred the Great" of the Palatinate. Under his kindly rule the Lutherans, Presbyterians, and Anabaptists flourished, not withstanding severe Calvinism was the theology of the established or reformed church.

"During the Wars of Louis XIV the Palatinate, one of the richest and most fertile lands in Germany, was mercilessly devastated by the French armies in 1674 and 1689. In 1685 the Simmern line died out and was succeeded by the collateral line of Neuburg, whose members were of the Catholic faith. This led to the emigration, in 1709-10, of a large number of Protestant inhabitants (estimated at 13,000) to England. These went at the special invitation of Queen Anne, who was seeking desirable subjects to train in British ways and later send to her colonies in America. In England these people from the Palatinate were pitiable objects of English charity and at the same time creators of serious discontent among the British poor, for bread was scarce and commanding double price, while these foreigners were supported by public collections and by the Queen. It is not surprising that they are so often spoken of as 'the poor Palatines'. But these are the words with Lord Macaulay describes them: "Honest, laborious men, who had once been thriving Burghers of Manheim and Heidelberg, or who had cultivated the vine on the banks of the Neckar and the Rhine. Their ingenuity and their diligence could not fail to enrich any land which should afford them an asylum'."

In England, these people lived in tents from the early summer of 1709 until they sailed in mild weather in January, 1710. From there a large body crossed over to Ireland, while others went to North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. In 1710 between 3,000 and 4,000 Palatines as they were called, settled in Columbia and Ulster counties, New York, whence many removed to Montgomery and Herkimer counties to the region around Worcester, Massachusetts, and to Pennsylvania. For more than a century these good people continued to come to the United States, and a colony of Palatines settled in New Jersey as late as the 1850's, finding there some who had come a hundred years earlier. 'Baron Christopher de Graffenreid and Ludwig Michel, who had been attracted to North Carolina by their previous association with the now deceased Duke of Albemarle, found these 'poor Palatines' in England 'intermingled with Swiss and people from several of the German Provinces'. He and Michel, Dr. Vass tells us, 'were looking for a profitable speculation, and ready to grapple with this problem for a consideration. It was understood that the queen would not only assume the expense of their transportation, but also bestow upon them considerable assistance. This really took place,

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remember any thing about it. This will take further study and research. I've got a letter out to Bob and his son John Koonce in Gibson City, IL. They are Pentecostal ministers and Bob and his father, Harold Koonce were preachers in and around Mulberry Grove, IL which is in the area of the Koonce Chapel.

Back to the Cemetery; the earliest marked grave is died 1837. Mike figures there may be as many as 300 graves there. He & Betty are researching old newspapers to try and identify as many of these people as possible.

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Nancy & I took a side trip to Williamson County Illinois, about a four hour drive from Mulberry Grove, to visit with Paul & Marian (nee Koonce) Killman, at Marian, IL. They shared many documents on their line of North Carolina Koonces, also they had a picture of an old tin-type of Thomas B. Koonce and his Civil War Records that show he was in Andersonville Prison. This is the first record we have of a Koonce held in Andersonville. If you are unfamiliar with that notorious Civil War prison, I suggest you contact your local library and get a copy of the movie. There will be more research on this line for a future article.

Then we went to visit the Koonce Cemetery near by and took pictures of the Koonce markers for our records.

Also on our list was a Smith Cemetery that was also located in Williamson County. Deep in the country, at the end of a wooded trail, we found the meticulously maintained Smith cemetery. And near by was the person who keeps it that way, Josie Koonce. Josephine is the widow of Howard Koonce (1910-1987) who is a descendant of the North Carolina Koonces. Howard was a Master Sergeant with the U.S. Air Force during WW II and Korea.

With time running out we headed back to Mulberry Grove and back home for work Monday morning.

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and this last sum amounted to 14,000 Sterling.'

"Other advantages, promises, gilded the enterprise. Between de Graffenreid and the Lords Proprietors was drawn up an elaborate contract, which still exists. His pay was five and a half pounds apiece for 650 Palatines transported to North Carolina, more than \$18,000. Liberal provision was made for their comfort on arrival and for their support for a year in their new homes.

Young people, healthy and laborious and of all kinds of occupations, were selected, and ample provisions was made for their comfortable voyage in well equipped ships. de Graffenreid appointed three directors, notables from North Carolina then in London, one of whom seems to have been a Lawson, the survey general; for he could not himself sail with them as he had to await his colonist from Bern." "In the group then were French Protestants from Guienne and from Gascony, a few French Swiss, German Swiss, and Germans from beyond the Palatinate. One of these young Germans was a son of August Hermann Francke, Professor of Oriental languages--changed to a professor of theology in 1698 at Halle, a pupil of Spencer and the teacher of Zinzendorf. Professor Francke was a pietist preacher, whose activity however, took the practical direction of founding, endowing and organizing schools for the religious training of the poor and neglected children of his city and its surrounding country. "Nor did Francke overlook their more material needs of a practical sort. He set up a printing office for his boys, and opened an apothecary's shop. He had them instructed in the natural sciences and in their native language. He gave them systematic physical exercises, and had them instructed in manual trades. All his foundations exist at the present time, and several thousand pupils annually receive instructions around the Francke Platz in Halle. A bronze statue of the him adorns the center of the square.

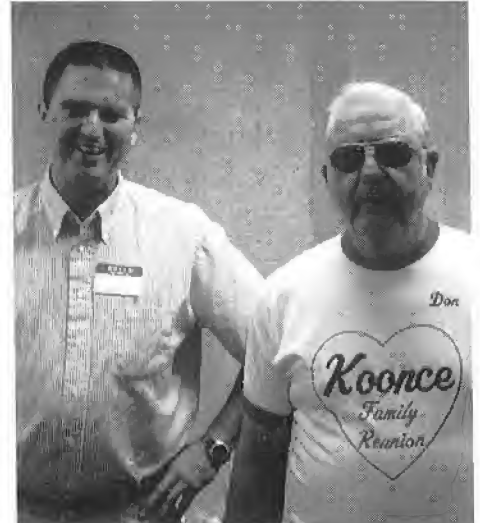
The pietist preacher, August Francke, had been in contact with Cotton Mather about the chance his son Johann, already a man, might have to make a man of himself in New England; and Hans was now in London ready to sail for Boston, but fate decreed otherwise. Hans saw among the poor Palatines a beautiful girl named Sevil Muller; and New Bern, rather than Boston became the destination of John Martin Franke. Sevil Miller was his destiny. She was the daughter of Jacob and Katherine Muller, who came with their children to New Bern from the Palatinate in 1710.

Francke had with him his surveying

instruments, and he brought along many small wares that he thought might be useful to colonists. He went up one bank of Trent River and down the other, starting out with his surveyors compass on his shoulder and his peddlers pack on his back. He returned to New Bern in less than two years, with a fine estate called Little Germany not far from the head of the river, with land on both sides of the Trent, and with his pockets full of ready money. He was almost immediately elected a member of the General Assembly of 1712, and returned to New Bern as a justice of the peace. His sons took wives from the best that the colony afforded; and his wife's brothers, the Muller, Jacob, John, and Phillip, have also had an honorable part in building up this and other states. "Descendants of de Graffenreid and of Michel are found throughout our broad land, numbering among them many of the old Huguenots and other French Protestant families. Many French Protestants who fled to the Netherlands afterwards found their way to our country.

In the middle of the last century, however, many people from the Palatine moved on down through Virginia and into Piedmont to North Carolina. Their descendants are today the leaders in everything worth while in the up-country of both Carolinas. Gaston, Lincoln, Catawba, Caldwell, Cabarrus, Cleveland, Rowan--practically all of our Piedmont counties are the better for their presence.

## CORRECTION



These people were identified wrong in the October 1996 issue on Page 8. They are: Frederick Donald Koonce (left) and Don Koonce (right) Distant cousins at the Koonce

# 1949 ETTER FROM FITZHUGH KOONCE TO MISS BELL KOONCE, Wilmar, Arkansas

Pine Bluff, AR  
June 24, 1949

Miss Belle Koonce  
Wilmar, Arkansas

Dear Miss Koonce,

You will find enclosed a copy of an old, old recording that was shown and loaned to me by your niece, Mrs. Talbot, and making copies of it for use in genealogical data. Miss Talbot gave me your address that I might write to you. I met you one time when you were at Mrs. Sidney Roy's when I came by there for spot visit in, about, 1933. Your brother Jim and a sister, I forgot her name, and yourself were there.

On the basis of this old paper, Mrs. Talbot got me interested in getting up all the data we could on all of our folks and I was so most woefully ignorant but thru those faint recollections by hearsay, I know about how to go about making contact such as help me by scouring addresses and later, if necessary, go visiting. But to date I have no track nor trace of your Aunt Nancy Emeline, who she married, nor of location of any of her children or grandchildren and the same of your Uncle Marion (D. M. Koonce). P. R. Koonce by understanding, and say so, went to the war and was killed but I have no documentary evidence to that affect and as he must have been about 28 years old when the war started it could be, and likely that he left a family. He was your Uncle Philip. Elizabeth Ann Koonce married a Bradberry (Alfred) and some of them still live around Gillette. Is that right?? Aunt Catherine married Judson Clements at Brownsville, Tenn. Am I right? G. W. Koonce (Uncle George) came to Warren with your Pa and later went on to Texas and settled at or around Fairfield, Texas and I can get a line on them, Right??

Now your father was Richard Nixon (or Nicholson, which?) Koonce and what your mothers maiden name and her birth date and the date of her death and what was the death date of your father, and the full names of all their children, their birthdays, if you know, or it might be that you have some kind of old paper or record that might show such. I'm going to write Mrs., Biggs along this same line and later write your other sisters, if you have any, and your brother Jim if it be that he might know anything definite for sure or any of them have any records. Did Aunt Mary Jane Worsham who married Isich (or Isac) Worsham leave any children by any of her marriages or would you know, or would you remember the date of her death at Cousin Ella's. If I'm wrong in any part of this you be sure to correct me!!

Susan Frances Koonce (Aunt Fannie) married Philip Jones and did she leave any children. My understanding is that they lived around Hermitage and left one boy, Philip Jones Jr. at around Hermitage. Is that right? And if so what is his address if you know it.... These are a lot of questions to ask you so you take your sweet time and as you think of it or it comes to you put it down, or something like that, so you can give it to me, and if it too much for you to write if you don't care I'll drop down to see you some convenient Sunday with note book and write it all down. I'm a poor boy and don't have much of a car but an old smoothmouth Ford pickup, 1939 model but it does the job for me to get around in.

My grandpa was James Madison, one of the twins, and the baby by the old mans second marriage to the widow Mounce and as you might guess I know enough of Joanna Palmina (Aunt Miney) Thomas Jefferson (Uncle Jeff) folks to be able to get in touch with them in due time.

I wrote my Aunt Jennie the other day for a lot of information because I know she was chock full of it as I had heard her talk a lot of such from time to time about such and she can give me all necessary dates on or about our immediate family, and maybe, a lot on Aunt Miney's folks and Uncle Jeff's also. Aunt Miney married John Sid Moore and Cousin Tom Sid Moore still lives there in that same neighborhood. About 2 or 3 years ago your Sister, Mrs., Biggs, went to see Aunt Jennie on a visit, as I remember aunt Jennie speaking of it. Aunt Jennie, I think, must be in the 70's. My Papa, James Claud Koonce died suddenly with heart attack May 30th, 1941 and buried at Clarendon. If you can do so give the addresses of all of cousin Ella Belin's children so that if they know anything or have any old records that might do to copy.

If you can remember anything of what became of uncle Marion (D. M.) that I might know where to get hold of them or anything at all definite about P.R. (Philip) that might be in the way of good or authentic information. Who were Reatus (or Reatis) Wright and Richard, or, would know?

I certainly and surely hope you don't mind this and even find it interesting and you can drop me a postal card in reply that you received this letter and suit yourself about as to being able to give me all such as you know or have record of at your leisure and convenience. And when I get thru with all this I'll try to furnish copies to all that want them right down the line.

It is Uncle Marion's or his children's whereabouts or what became of them and where are Philip Jrs. folks, if he left any or be able to get some kind or any kind of documentary evidence or data to the effect that he was killed in the war that would be conclusive.

Yours very truly,  
H. F. Koonce  
2602 W. Pullen St.  
Pine Bluff, Ark.

## ??? QUERIES ???

John Koonce b. abt 1801-3 m. Mahala. Lived in Memphis in 1860. Later moved to Mt. Pleasant, TX. Had a daughter, Nancy b. 1839 m. Henry M. Hays. Who were his parents? Where was he born? What was Mahala's maiden name? Query from Larry W. Smith, Celina, TN.

\*\*\*\*\*

Robert Koonce, born 1803 in Wilson Co. TN. Son of Lemuel Koonce and Else Jarman. Last known location was Fayette Co. TN about 1835. Does anyone know where he went or what happened to him? Any information on his family? *James Hargraves, 7698 Lakeridge Circle, Elk Grove, CA 95624-9650*

\*\*\*\*\*

Member F.A. Briggs, 2106 Moultrie Rd., Camden, SC 29020, needs any information on the family of **James Lee Koonce**, b. abt 1866, m. Narcissa Scott. Sons name is **Usher David Koonce**, b. 4 Dec 1886, m. Mary Susan Raynor. Usher & Mary had a daughter named **Idell Koonce**, b. 9 June 1913, m. Harry Waldo Dotson.

\*\*\*\*\*

New member, Jon Koonce, from Oregon City, OR, is the son of David Franklin Koonce, of Richlands, NC. His grandfather was Henry Farriar Koonce, born about 1885. Who was Henry's father?

\*\*\*\*\*

My fifth great grandmother was a Koonce. I don't know much about her. Her name was Rachel Koonce and she was married to David Adams. I know they had a son named Nelson who married Rebecca Stephans. Nelson and Rebecca were living in Missouri at the time of their death and are buried in the Goodland Cemetery in Iron County, Missouri. This is information I picked up in the Ozark Heritage, Dent Count Missouri Area Cemeteries & Families, Volume III. This book also says Nelson was Rev. Nelson Adams. Do you have any information that might be helpful? Marilyn K. Larsen; P.O. Box 33; Sand Point, Alaska 99661; Phone (907) 383-2262; FAX (907) 383-2252; E-Mail MLarsen2@aol.com

## CHRISTMAS 1988 LETTER FROM JOHN HOMER KOONCE

Chambersburg, PA. 17201  
204 Village Square  
Christmas 1988

Dear Friend,

You may be interested in what has happened to the Koonce's - Helen & John Homer (or LA). Here is an update related by John.

Helen and I were employed by the Carrier Corp. for a quarter century in Syracuse, NY. We retired late in 1967, enjoyed there months in Europe and two months visiting my people in the south. We continued rebuilding work on an old 75 acre farm house in Cazenovia, NY and worked part time at various jobs in Syracuse for 9 years.

When 17 feet of snow fell on Syracuse in 1977 we decided it was not the best place for us to spend our final years.

We looked in Georgia, Florida, and Louisiana for desirable retirement space without success. In July 1978 we moved to a multi-stage home for old timers. Menno-Haven, here in Chambersburg, PA. We fully enjoyed 10 years independent living in a well equipped two bedroom apartment. Helen organized and operated a beautiful library for Menno-Haven for two years. I organized and operated a well equipped "Wood and Metal Shop" for them for 6 years. In 1984 my physical health slipped to the point that I could not continue the shop. About the same time Helen's memory began to fade rapidly. I handled the food problem and we continued to live independently until May 1988 when a fall sent me to the Menno-Haven Nursing Home section. Helen also moved to the Nursing Home with her loss of memory problem. Helen is still assigned to the nursing Home with complete care. Her problem is similar to Alzheimer's decease. Not fatal, but no known medical help and continuing down hill until death. I was with her several months then moved to a new building in October where I get only personal care.

This is a well operated, six stage, retirement facility for the final years of any one.

Direct anything for Helen or me to me. Helen has no memory, cannot read or converse. I spend a good part of each day comforting her and shedding many hidden tears. Over the loss of such a brilliant mind.

Love from John.

*(John Homer Koonce, Sr. was born 8 December 1902. He was the son of John Christopher Ellington & Emma (nee Youngblood) Koonce. This is the North Carolina line. He had two sons by his first wife, Florence. John Homer, Jr. & George Robert.*

*John passed away ten months after writing this letter, 19 Oct 1989)*



**Helen (nee Curran) Koonce**

# HERBERT KOONCE

## LIFE AS A WWII POW

*Born 2 April 1922, in a little town in Blythville, Arkansas, to Tweedie Herbert & Roxie (nee Reed) Koonce, graduated from high school in 1940. NC line.*

After becoming of age, Uncle Sam sent me notice to report for duty Oct. 6, 1942, at the Detroit draft board. I was immediately shipped out by train to Fort Custer, Battle Creek, Michigan. From there I was shipped to my regular camp in Muskogee, Oklahoma, called Camp Gruber.

Basic training lasted about eight months. Boy did I hate this. I think that they wanted you to hate it. One example was cleaning my rifle for inspection after hours. My rifle was very clean, and I knew it was, but during inspection, my platoon sergeant could only say how dirty it was and to go clean it and see him later. I would take my rifle inside, lay it down across my bunk, take a shower, get dressed, pick up my rifle and take it back to my sergeant without cleaning it again. He proceeded to tell me how clean it was and how he wanted me to keep it that way. Laughing as I left his office, believe me, I never told him the difference.

After spending about eight months in Camp Gruber, training moved on to the swamps of Louisiana for maneuvers - hot, dusty, snakes and insects. Oh, yes, a farmer's watermelon patch was close by. It was said that some GI Joe stole a watermelon and the farmer complained to the general. It was quite profitable for the farmers, since the general assessed each GI one dollar. And even more profitable since other divisions used the same area.

After completing our maneuver exercises, we were off to a place called Fort Sam Houston in Texas. This was like being on a vacation from what we had been used to. About two months of this and we were again on the move to Virginia aboard a ship, December. 17, 1943, to Casablanca, Morocco, Africa, arriving on Christmas Day.

One night in Casablanca, and then we boarded a train for Oran, Algeria, Africa. It appeared these trains were what was used in World War I, called 40-8, fourty men or eight horses. We trained for a couple of months and again were off on a boat to Naples, Italy. Arriving there about the first part of March 1944, we began to see the first real scars of war — boats sunk in the harbors and damage to buildings, etc. We were now approximately fourty or fourty-five miles south of the enemy line. There had not been much activity there for some time, partly due to the wet and rainy season, winter, and possibly because they were waiting for us as replacements.

We were transported up to the front line on March 17, 1944. The first day of front line duty was rainy with more mud. It was almost impossible to move any heavy equipment. My real experience came within three weeks from a mine. I was standing up within three feet of this mine when it exploded. But what could have blown my head off, resulted only in minor damage. After a short stay at field hospital and the removal of several pieces of rust from the explosion, it was then back to my unit. For this I received the Purple Heart. Today I still have a piece of this in my lip.

At 11 p.m. May 11, the big push started. Fire power was so much that you could read a newspaper by the light. There was so much noise that you could not hear anyone talk. This took us on the road to Rome, entering this historic city on June 5, 1944. This city had been declared an open city because of the historic sites. The enemy was consistently being pushed back. Four or five weeks later and 50 or 60 miles north of Rome we received a well-deserved week of rest. We moved back from the war zone to the outskirts of Rome. One day was set aside for a historic tour

through Rome by our regimental chaplain. This was a very interesting tour.

A short time later I was back to the war zone fighting from one hill to another until one rainy Sunday afternoon on or about Oct. 6, 1944. On patrol, we were captured by the Germans, spending a few days in a prisoner of war camp in Italy. Finally we were put on a POW troop train through the Brenner Pass up to Mooseburg Germany, in a camp called Stalag 7A. This train trip was not the best of accommodations — no bunks, rest rooms, or windows. Arriving at our destination, we were treated to our first of two showers in seven months, each lasting three minutes. I was assigned a bunk and barrack number. Twelve people sleeping in approximately the same square footage as one person had back in basic training. Two people side by side, two end to end, about six inches off the floor. Three bunks high, about 18 inches between each section. We were issued canteen cups, mess kit, short blanket and some type of overcoat. My mattress consisted of a gunnysack, partly filled with some excelsior. For seven months, we worked, exercised, and slept in our one and only set of clothes, never a change. There were no facilities for any clean clothes, no heat for the barracks, but we didn't need much with about 200 people in one place. There wasn't any hot water, only cold water from the tap. Food was delivered to our barracks three times a day, no mess halls. For breakfast there was a pot of chicory, a substitute for coffee, no one drank it. One might take a cup or two if he decided he needed a shave. Lunch consisted of a pot of soup no one could eat. We would occasionally get barley or potato soup. This was considered a treat. Dinner consisted of two slices of bread, three average potatoes, a slice of margarine or cold cut meat. After dinner, a person felt like he had only an appetizer, and went to

*(Continued on page 9)*

# Herbert Koonce WW II POW

(Continued from page 8)

occasionally get barley or potato soup. This was considered a treat. Dinner consisted of two slices of bread, three average potatoes, a slice of margarine or cold cut meat. After dinner, a person felt like he had only an appetizer, and went to bed hungry or sat around talking about mother's cooking back home. If and when they had a full stomach, it was time to talk about the girls back home.

Some two months later we started to receive American Red Cross boxes. It was six men to a box, designed for one person per box, per week. All GI's became cooks and tinsmiths. All metal cans were transformed into a forced air cook stove. You would be surprised how many things you can make with three cold potatoes, and some of the food from the Red Cross. Things were rationed, a roll of toilet paper would be split up in equal sheets. A Red Cross package had a packet of cigarettes included. Cigarettes were gold, used as a medium of exchange. This usually started a crap game, using cigarettes in place of money. Men used a blanket, being sure not to lose any specks of tobacco. Later they scraped up any specks of tobacco to possibly roll a cigarette. Cigarettes could

be used occasionally to trade for a loaf of bread from a guard. All foreigners loved the American cigarette. Cigarettes were very scarce, no smoker smoked a ready roll, all cigarettes would be tom up and re-rolled, to last longer. All cigarette butts were saved and re-rolled. I saw people give up their daily rations for a cigarette. This did not bother me since I did not smoke or drink coffee while in the Army. The only news that came from outside was by new POWs coming into camp.

We were allowed to send a couple post cards home per month. Some of them arrived at home after I did. No mail ever reached me. This was pretty much any daily life in prison camp until on Sunday, April 29, 1945, when the U.S. Army came roaring in, what I believe was a Patton 14 Armored Division. We were soon issued clean clothes and blankets and moved into new tents. There were portable hot showers and plenty of good food. We were promised a fast trip back home if we chose to be a little crowded or in luxury if we wanted to wait a while. Naturally we took the fastest trip. After spending seven or eight days more in the POW

camp, we flew back to Le Havre, France, boarding a boat for the United States.

Arriving back in New York harbor, we passed by the Statue of Liberty to a big welcome party of people around the boat pier. Boarding a train for home, most POWs received eight to 10 weeks of recuperation time. I reported afterward to a resort town, Hot Springs, Ark., and from there to Fort Lawton, Wash., which was a four or five-day trip. I spent four or five weeks there and then south to Fort Louis, Wash., for discharge from the Army. I picked up my discharge papers and went to the train station for a return trip home. I was so eager to get out that I took the first train out, even knowing if a waited a couple of hours the next train scheduled would get me home faster, via a faster route. My Army duty consisted of some good and some bad times. I would not trade my experience for anything, nor would ever want to go through it again for anything.

*Herbert Koonce of Farmington Hills served in A. T. Co. of the 349th Infantry, 88th Division, of the U.S. Army during World War II.*

## New Members as of October 1996

Chandler, Anthony & Pavla  
P.O. Box 906  
Hawkins, TX 75765

Dooley, Mary Belle  
2935 Hwy 24  
Camden, AR 71701

Koonce, Herbert  
7297 Danbrooke  
West Bloomfield, MI 48322

Koonce, Frederick Donald  
12818 County Road 4039  
Holts Summit, MO 65043

Koonce, Jefferson Davis  
411 Church St.  
Stamps, AR 71860

Larsen, Marilyn K.  
P.O. Box 33  
Sand point, AK99661-0033

Lechner, Don or Nancy  
48 Travis Rd.  
Tulia, TX 79088

Robinson, Mary Lee  
5231 E. Slope Dr.  
Amarillo, TX 79108

Vines, Carol Coonce  
P. O. Box 7  
Nara Vista, NM 88430

Watson, John B.  
411 Chestnut St.  
Franklin, VA 23851

Williams, Doris E.  
1625 27th Ave. N.  
N. Myrtle Beach, SC 29582

## WALTER H. KOONCE

Virginia branch of Koonces

*(From Greenville, Illinois Advocate/1933 31 July)*

Instead of waiting to make out his own marriage license, Walter H. Koonce, who today became county clerk, surprised his friends by securing a license from County Clerk W. E. McCaslin last Wednesday afternoon, and was married at 8:30 o'clock that evening to Miss Bernice Wait, a popular teacher of this city. The ceremony took place at the home of the brides mother, Mrs. Belle Waite, on East Vine St. and Rev. E. T. Carroll, pastor of the M. E. Church, officiated. Only the immediate families of the bride and groom were present.

Immediately after the ceremony, the couple left on the 9:53 train for Decatur for a short visit with the brides grandmother, Mrs. E. Herrin, and from there they went to Alton for a short visit, returning to Greenville Sunday evening. For the present they will make their home with Mrs. Wait.

Both bride and groom have been successful Bond County teachers for several years. Last month Mr. Koonce was elected county clerk on the Republican ticket, taking office today. Mrs. Koonce, for the present, will continue her work in the departmental grades at the Central school. A brother of the bride, Lee Wait, is in the quartermasters department of the army, and is stationed at New York City.



# ABOUT JIMMY KOONCE

*(James Anderson Koonce is from the North Carolina line of Koonces)*

Editor: This is a story about confidence - and Jimmy Koonce. To be with him and enjoy his presence was a blessing! I met Jimmy in June 1970. I had been appointed associate pastor at First United Methodist Church in Florence.

My wife and I had gone to Rogers Department Store to shop, and I met Mr. Koonce at the front entrance. He gave us a warm welcome and suggested that we talk a few minutes. My wife, Raye, went about shopping and Jimmy and I retired to my car, which was parked nearby.

Jimmy was chairman of the Administrative Board at First Church. One of the first things he said was a confidence builder for me. Moving from the country to the city caused a bit of anxiety on my part. Like a father to his son, he assured me that all would be well. He said our church was well pleased because of our coming, and that great things were expected. I give thanks to almighty God to

this day for this Barnabas who has been my friend, counselor and adviser until his recent departure in death.

We were fellow sufferers. His beautiful wife, Melva, and my wife occupied rooms at Mitchell-Hollingsworth in Florence. One day I had taken Raye to the rotunda to watch the birds outside the complex. I became aware of a male voice singing. Only a few people were there at that time.

I saw a man leaning over the shoulder of a lady. He was singing in her ear. It must have been angels singing to her. It was Jimmy and Melva. He had spread seed on the pavement so the birds would be there. He did this regularly. What a comfort to me. I thought I might be the only person who sang for their wife here.

I can honestly say that Jimmy Koonce made the moral atmosphere of the City of Florence more lovely and he has left footprints which will not be diminished by the sands of time.

Jim Holland, Florence, Alabama

## LETTER FROM PAUL & BERNICE KOONCE

November 1996

Dear John & Nancy Koonce,  
We enjoyed your October 1996 **KOONCE to KOONCE** Newsletter and want to again thank you for the hours of work you put into it.

We are quite well for our age. Paul will be 90 in January and I will be 81 in December. We continue to be active and try to "Do our Thing", but sometimes we can't remember what the "Thing is".

But God is good to us and we are grateful. Hope the two of you have a great Christmas.

Paul & Bernice Koonce  
Friendswood, Texas

*(Paul Best: Koonce was born in Rusk, Texas in 1907. He was the son of Daniel Marion & Augusta Edna (nee Jones) Koonce. Paul managed the Hobby airport in Houston for 30 years.)*

# Obituaries

*(Received from Dennis Jones NC Koonce line)*

## DARRIS W. KOONCE

Darris W. Koonce, 80, died Monday, September 9, 1996, at Lenoir memorial Hospital.

A life long resident of Jones County, he was a veteran of World War II, serving with the U. S. Marines in the South Pacific, and was awarded a Purple Heart. He graduated from Cumberland School of Law in Tennessee and also attended Wake Forest University. He was engaged in private law practice in Trenton for more than 40 years. He was a member of the Cypress Creek United Methodist Church and had been attending Trenton Missionary Baptist Church.

Funeral services were held at 2 pm Sept. 12 at the chapel of Garner-Stroud Funeral Home with the Rev. Rick Washington officiating. Burial was in Trenton Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy Nobel Koonce of the home; a daughter, Kathy Koonce Riggs of Kinston; his mother, Nellie H. Koonce of Guardian Care, Kinston; and a sister, Sadie K. Jones of Sun Lakes, Arizona.

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## JAMES WYATT KOONCE

James Wyatt Koonce, 75, passed away after a two year battle with cancer. James was born 1 March 1921 in Ripley, Tennessee. He is the son of James Huie "Dude" and Bessie Lurline (nee Hall) Koonce. James & Bessie were married in Marion, Crittenden Co., AR on 21 June 1943.

Born to this union on 17 August 1944 was Jimmy Hugh at Brownsville, TN. Jimmy married Mary Angeline Sanders; on 6 November 1946 was Peggy Ruth at Ripley, TN. Peggy married Melton Gordon Jackson. On 7 October 1948 was Bessie Inez at Ripley, TN. Bessie married Michael Alan Glenn.

James is survived by His wife, of 53 years, Alma Gitchell, and all three children, Jimmie Koonce, Peggy Jackson and Bessie Glenn.

## EFFIE GITCHELL KOONCE HAYNES

Effie Grace Gitchell Koonce Haynes, 86, of Memphis, formerly of Ripley died November 9, 1996 at the home of her son Dr. Marshall Koonce after complications of septicemia.

Services were held on Nov. 11, 1996, 1 1:00 a.m., at Yarbrough Funeral Home in Ripley with burial in Grace Cemetery.

She was a retired nurse and histology technician. She was a Rebekah of Ruth Lodge # 1 in Memphis and a member of Central Assembly of God Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William David Gitchell and Dollie Klutts Harrison Gitchell, and two husbands - Floyd G. Koonce and Leon Haynes, four children (Peggy, Gilbert, Dianne, & Linda Koonce), two grandchildren (Michael Earl Koonce killed in Viet Nam and Jerry Koonce 11), and six brothers (Ira, Sam, Thomas, Henry, Harvey, and Lewis Gitchell) and three sisters (Agnes King Gipson, Edna Reese Wilson, and Rosa Lois Haislip).

In addition to her son Dr. Marshall Koonce, of Memphis she is survived by her son Frederick Koonce of Jefferson City, Missouri and Jerry Koonce of Memphis, 6 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She also leaves a sister, Alma Gitchell Koonce and a brother, David Gitchell both of Ripley. The family requests that any Memorials be sent to Central Assembly of God Church in Ripley where she was a member for over 60 years.

\*\*\*\*\*

*(This was sent to me without a death date or what line of Koonces he came from. Anybody Know?)*

## JOHN FLOYD KOONCE

Graveside services for John Floyd Koonce, 96, who died Friday at McAllen, TX Methodist Hospital, were held Monday at 10 A. M. at Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery in Edinburg,

TX with the Rev. Thomas Pugh of the First Baptist Church of Edcouch officiating.

He was a native of Pennsylvania and had lived most of his life in Owensboro, KY, before moving to the valley in May 1980. He made his home with his sister Frances Baker, who preceded him in death on Nov. 5, 1984.

He is survived by one sister, Mrs. Lola Spence of Clyde, Ohio, and several nieces and nephews.

Skinner Funeral home of Edinburg was in charge of arrangements.

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## LAMARI JANE KOONCE

*(Advocate/1932, October 17)*

Lamaria Jane Koonce died Thursday at home in Mulberry Grove. Invalid for 20 years. Born 28 April 1855 in Tennessee. Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Calven Jones. She came to IL with her parents during the Civil War. Married in 1871 at Woburn to George W. Koonce who died March 1931. 3 sons perceded in death. Frank, Lyman & Jessie. Survived by 3 sons, Louis & Joseph of Centralia. George W. Jr. & 5 daughters. Mrs. Laura Fiaker of Sandoval, Mrs. Ida Ray of Vandalia. Mrs. Joanne Wolkman of Lawrenceville, Mrs. Elizabeth Daugherty of Mulberry Grove & Mrs. Maudie Marie Fowler at home. Also 1 sister, Mrs. Anna Bartlett of Centralia. Funeral was Sunday at Mulberry Grove Free Methodist Church. Buried in Mulberry Grove Cemetery.

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*(From the Eagle Democrat, Warren, AR)*

## NICK KOONCE DEAD

A telephone message was received here Tuesday night announcing the death of Nick Koonce, formerly of this place, which occurred at Wynne, AR on Tuesday. Nick was reared in this place, and the news of his death was a severe shock. The remains reached here by train last night, and will be interred tomorrow. Mrs. Koonce widow of the diseased is now in route from Memphis.

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Francke, August	5	Koonce, Dianne	10	Koonce, Peggy	10	Sanders, Morgan	3
Franke, John Martin	5	Koonce, Don	5	Koonce, Rachel	7	Scott, Narcissa	7
Gibson, Agnes King	10	Koonce, Elizabeth	6,10	Koonce, Richard Nixon	6	Shannon, Marion F.	3
Gitchell, Alma	10	Koonce, Fitzhugh	6	Koonce, Robert	7	Sid Moore, John	6
Gitchell, David	10	Koonce, Florence	7	Koonce, Susan Frances	6	Sid Moore, Tom	6
Gitchell, Effie Koonce	10	Koonce, Floyd G.	10	Koonce, Thomas B.	5	Simmons, F. M.	3,4
Gitchell, Henry	10	Koonce, Frank	10	Koonce, Thomas J.	6	Smith, Hazel	2
Gitchell, Ira	10	Koonce, Frederick	5,10	Koonce, Tweedy H.	8	Smith, Larry W.	7
Gitchell, Lewis	10	Koonce, Geo.	1,6,7,10	Koonce, Usher David	7	Spence, Lola	10
Gitchell, Sam	10	Koonce, Gilbert	10	Koonce, Walter H.	9	Stacy, Inez Koonce	4
Gitchell, Thomas	10	Koonce, Harold	5	Koonce, Woody	2	Stephans, Rebecca	7
Gitchell, William D.	10	Koonce, Helen	7	Kornegay, Abraham	3	Stevens, Susannah	3
Glen, Michael Alan	10	Koonce, Henry Farriar	7	Kornegay, Daniel	3	Talbot, Mrs.	6
Granade, John	3	Koonce, Herbert	8,9	Kornegay, David	3	Vass, Dr.	4
Green, George	3	Koonce, Howard	5	Kornegay, Elijah	3	Vines, Carol Coonce	9
Haislip, Rosa Lois	10	Koonce, Ida	10	Kornegay, Elizabeth	3	Wait, Belle	9
Hall, Bessie Lurline	10	Koonce, Idell	7	Kornegay, George	1,3	Wait, Bernice	9
Hampton, Fred	2	Koonce, James A.	12	Kornegay, Issac	3	Waite, Lee	9
Hampton, Laurel	2	Koonce, James Claud	6	Kornegay, Jacob	3	Wallace, C. S.	4
Hampton, Louis	2	Koonce, James Huie	10	Kornegay, John	3	Ward, A. D.	3
Hampton, Sarah	2	Koonce, James Lee	7	Kornegay, Joseph	3	Washington, Rick	10
Hargett, F. W.	4	Koonce, James M.	6	Kornegay, Mary	3	Watson, John B.	9
Hargraves, James	7	Koonce, James Russel	2	Kornegay, Nancy	3	Whitfield, Patience	3
Harrison, Dollie Klutts	10	Koonce, James Wyatt	10	Kornegay, William	3	Williams, Doris E.	9
Haynes, Leon	10	Koonce, Jean Marie	2	Kornegay, Zilphia	3	Wilson, Edna Reese	10
Hays, Henry M.	7	Koonce, Jefferson D.	9	Land, H. K.	3	Worsham, Isich	6
Herrin, Mrs. E.	9	Koonce, Jerry	10	Larson, Marilyn K.	7,9	Worsham, Mary Jane	6
Herring, G. H.	4	Koonce, Jessie	10	Lawson, John	1	Youngblood, Emma	7

# KOONCE to KOONCE

April 1997

Official Publication of the Koonce Genealogical Society

Volume 4 Issue 2

## Mystery of Joel E. Koonce

*This obit and story are taken from the book, "DESCENDANTS OF JOHN KOONCE" compiled by Marvin "Buck" Claxton 1972.*

Joel E. Koonce was born near Wartrace, Tennessee on 27 December 1854. He was the son of William W. and Martha Ann (nee Swing) Koonce. Joel died in Texas 9 July 1909 and was buried on the prairie near Pyote, Texas. He married - (1) N.C. Seales - April 3, 1877. (2) Emma Pittman - October 23, 1888. William W. Koonce was born in Bedford Co., Tennessee on 1 May 1828. William was the son of John & Sarah Koonce. John was born in 1772 in Virginia and died 22 February 1845 in Bedford Co. Tennessee. We don't know who the parents of this. John Koonce were.

Joel moved to Texas January 12, 1885 and lived close to Barstow.

(Obituary) -- On last Friday morning, Mr. J.E. Koonce who resides with his family on what is known as the Nina Weina Ranch in the Big Valley left home on foot to go to Pyote., a distance of ten miles to catch the afternoon train for Barstow, in order to be present at a civil hearing in Justice Court in which he was the plaintiff. Saturday morning the case was called and Mr. Koonce failing to appear, the case was decided in favor of the defendant.

Sunday it became generally known that Mr. Koonce had not reached Pyote and a search was instituted and his remains were found near a road about a mile south of Pyote and in a short time a report was current that he had been assassinated, but the body being in a decomposed condition was the cause of this report for at the inquest it was proven beyond a doubt that he had met with no foul play and that death resulted

from natural causes ----- July 9, 1909

Mr. J. N. Mallett was visiting Tennessee in March of 1988 and I (Marvin "Buck" Claxton) gave him a copy of this obituary which was of his grandfather's brother. On his way back to his home in California, he stopped in Pecos, Texas to do some research on the death and family of Joel Koonce. He could not find any information but left his name and address with the curator of the Pecos Museum. In December, 1990 he received this letter from Mr. Shine Avary, Box 275, Barstow, Texas. A portion of the letter follows-

Dear Sir,

I was born here at Barstow, 17 miles west of Pyote in 1915. Too late to have known about this personally but my people have lived in this area since the 1880's. I knew personally Mr. Fitz Sitton of Pyote and have heard him tell the story several times. Fitz came with his family from

Oklahoma in 1907 when he was about 9 years of age, so he would have been about eleven or twelve at the time. He was just a kid there in Pyote where his father ran a store when the search for Mr. Koonce began. Fitz's father let Fitz go with this man who was a deputy or Justice of peace ---- So they left on foot and had not gone too far when they spotted something. The next part of this story isn't nice to say about anyone's kinfolk's but I want to tell it just like it was told to me and I hope that you understand that Fitz nor I mean anything derogatory toward Mr. Koonce. Fitz said Mr. Koonce must have been a large man because one of his legs, and I think one of his arms, were sticking up so high in the air they first thought it was a horse that had died there. As soon as the man investigating decided that it was Mr. Koonce ---- the man investigating nor anyone else later found any evidence of foul play. When all were satisfied that it was death from natural causes, it was necessary to bury him there. ---- At the very least "May Mr. Koonce's soul rest in everlasting peace" and all the other pioneers who braved such hardships as they encountered in this old desert country. Sincerely, Shine Avary

Mr. Koonce leaves a wife and a legion of friends to mourn and lament his sudden and tragic demise. They did not have any children.

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## EDITORS CORNER

by John Paul Koonce



This issue contains an insert called "KOONCE PROFILE" that will help you write a short biography on yourself or any one or more of your Koonce ancestors. Please take the few minutes to complete it and return to the address below so we can continue having interesting newsletters. You may copy it and pass it around to other relatives who may want to write their story and share it with the rest of us. There is also a Pedigree Chart on the other side of this insert. If you have not filled out a Pedigree Chart yet please do so now. Members send in obits but very seldom I receive birth notices. When a Koonce is born we all want to know. Pictures are another great way for parents and/or grandparents to brag about their little ones.

On page 5 there is also an article called Brainstorms. This was developed by Anthony & Pavla Chandler to help coordinate the research effort and try to save time and money by not duplicating research. If you are doing, or have done research, please take a few minutes and review this page.

Don't forget to plan on attending one of the Koonce Reunions this summer. For information on the fun filled weekend of August 9, at Paris Landing State Park near Paris,, Tennessee contact Alma (Koonce) Rogers; 110 Kemmons Dr., Jackson,

(Continued on page 3)

### Koonce Genealogical Society Newsletter KOONCE to KOONCE

is published quarterly in January, April, July and October. No attempt has been or will be made to verify the authenticity of any articles that are printed in this publication. It is intended to share information only. Send all inquiries to KOONCE to KOONCE, 1821 37th St. Somerset, WI 54025.

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# MULBERRY GROVE, ILLINOIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

by Nina Hatfill, 1989

*The Koonces came to Bond Co. IL in 1829 from around Nashville, TN. They were members of many different churches, one of which was the Mulberry Grove Christian Church. Some descendants still are. This is a history of this Church. Nina Hatfill is a daughter-in-law of Josie Koonce. See KOONCE to KOONCE, Vol. 1 issue 1 page 12. Josie Koonce is from the NC line of Koonces.*

The first location of the Mulberry Grove Christian Church was on the east side of Old Park Road, just 3 blocks north for the present Illinois Route 140. This property at 502 Old Park Road has passed through several owners and is now owned and occupied by Carl and Opal Siebert.

On October 27, 1838 the United States Government sold 30 acres of land to Mr. David Hubbard. This land was gradually sold in smaller plots which furnished the right of way for the railroad as well as several home sites.

On July 26, 1858, one-half acre was sold in equal shares to the Presbyterian and the Hurricane Creek German Baptist Church for \$40.00. These congregations shared the same building until October 25, 1861 when the Presbyterians sold their share to the Baptists for \$190. Thus, the Baptists then owned the entire property.

This building was 30" x 40" and was built on a brick foundation. Two doors were on the south side, three windows were on the west side of the building.

Later after the inside of the building had been plastered, a raised platform was built in the north end with a good substantial seat. This seat was replaced by ornamental chairs, on either side of the platform were 3 seats running north and south known as, "The Amen Corner".

There was an aisle from each door to the platform with seats on either side. It is thought perhaps this was to separate the males and females of the congregation.

The house was warmed by two big wood burning cast iron stoves. In the winter when the supply of firewood was

short, men with horses and wagons went to the timber and brought in firewood.

Four large wooden columns supported the ceiling and roof. Later they were removed and a self-supporting frame under the roof was devised.

On March 11, 1865 the Baptist Church sold on-half of its interest to the Christian Church for \$200. On May 12, 1866, the Baptist Church sold its remaining one-half interest to the Christian Church for \$200.

The Hurricane Creek German Baptist Church was also known at the Brethren Church. They were willing to sell to the Christian Church because a large number of their congregation had settled north west of Mulberry Grove in section 27, and they wanted to build a house of worship there, which they did. This building has been gone for at least 60 years but the church cemetery there is still kept under fence and maintained in fair condition.

The Christian Church congregation continued to worship in the building on Old Park Road until August 12, 1899 when it was sold to George W. Neathery, Sr. for \$200. The church reserved the bell, all of the interior fixtures and furnishings except the stoves. Due to inclement weather in December, 1899 construction of a new building at the corner of Wood and Main Streets had to be delayed until 1900. This building was destroyed by fire on Easter Sunday, 1944. This lot was sold and two acres were purchased at the north end of maple Street. Until a new building could be built services were held in the Mulberry Grove School building.

The Ground for the present building was broken June 5, 1944. It was dedicated August 19, 1945. The parsonage, a frame building, was built in 1953. The church building is of brick and well maintained inside and out. The inside has been painted, carpeted, new drapes, curtains, padded pews and a new office and nursery have been made during the past few years. It is air-conditioned and new furnaces were installed in 1989.



# Books Wanted for the Koonce Genealogical Society Library

*We are hoping to acquire the following books for the Koonce Genealogical Research Library. If you have any of these books and would like to donate them, or if you know the whereabouts of any of these books that we could buy, contact John P. Koonce at 1821 37th St., Somerset, WI 54025. 715-247-5297. Or e-mail at kooncejp@gw.startribune.com. If you know of any other books you think we should have let me know and I will add them to this list.*

Bridge Family History

Battle Family Book

Any State, County or City History Books that contain Koonces.

John Lawson, History of North Carolina.

Bernheim, G. D. History of the German Settlements and of the Lutheran Church in North and South Carolina, from the Earliest Period of the Colonization of the Dutch, German, and Swiss Settlers to the Close of the First Half of the Present Century. Philadelphia, 1872; Reprint. Baltimore, MD: Regional Publishing Co., 1975.

Cobb, Sanford H. The Story of the Palatines: An Episode in Colonial History. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1897.

Faust, Albert Bernhardt and Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh. Lists of Swiss Emigrants in the Eighteenth Century to the American Colonies. 2 vols. in 1. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1972. Volume 2, pages 6-14, gives an account, using contemporaneous sources, of about 151 persons believed to have left Switzerland for North Carolina.

Haun, Weynette Parks. Craven Precinct-County Court Minutes. 6 vols. to date. Durham, NC: Haun, 1978-. Volumes I and 2 contain Court Minutes from 1712 to 1741, with the years 1716-1729 missing. These early volumes were consulted for names and are cited as Craven County Court records or minutes above.

"The High German Chapel." Carolina and the Southern Cross (May 1914):8. Contains the 1740 petition for the building of a church for the use of the High Germans and the Church of England. Cited above as 1740 petition.

Holloman, Charles R. "Craven County, North

Carolina - Its Origin and Beginning." Seminar notes prepared for Local History Students, Craven Technical Institute, 1973. Holloman contains transcriptions of the 1714 claims list, 1714 tithables list, 1715 land tax list, and 1716 land tax list.

Knittle, Walter Allen. Early Eighteenth Century Palatine Emigration: A British Government Redemptioner Project to Manufacture Naval Stores. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1970.

"The Palatines and their Descendants." Carolina and the Southern Cross (March 1914):15-19.

Saunders, William L., ed. The Colonial Records of North Carolina. 10 Vols. Raleigh, NC: State of North Carolina, 1886-90. Volume 4, pages 954-956, contains the 1747 petition of the Palatines to King George II, and gives a brief history of their settlement. Cited above as 1747 petition.

Schelbert, Leo, ed. America Experienced.-Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Accounts of Swiss Immigrants to the United States. Camden, ME: Picton Press, 1996. Includes some of the same letters in Todd's volume, as well as accounts of Swiss immigrants to other states.

Todd, Vincent H., ed. Christoph von Graffenried's Account of the Founding of New Bern: Edited with an Historical Introduction and an English Translation. Spartanburg, SC: The Reprint Company, 1973. Includes letters written around 1711 by Swiss from New Bern to their relatives.

Watson, Alan D. A History of New Bern and Craven County. New Bern, North Carolina: Tryon Palace Commission, 1987. The standard history of New Bern and Craven County, includes a detailed chapter on the settlement of New Bern., North Carolina.

## Editors Corner

(Continued from page 2)

Tennessee 38305 (901) 668-7863 or to make motel reservations call (901) 642-7368.

For the "Greater Koonce Golf Classic" in Somerset, Wisconsin on August 16th, contact Bob Koonce; 2938 Hamlet Avenue N.; Oakdale, MN 55128 (612) 777-2985. Or for the Koonce Gathering on the same day on the banks of the scenic St. Croix River in Bayport, Minnesota contact Pat Koonce, 590 Gentry Avenue N.; Oakdale, MN 55128. (612) 739-9625

The cover story, about Joel E. Koonce, I find very interesting because it comes from the Claxton book and to this day we have been unable to connect this line to any other line of Koonces. Tom Palmer of Madison, WI has done extensive research on the VA line but so far has not been able to connect these people.

## New Members

Arbon, Mark  
100 Erregger Road  
Syracuse, NY 13224

Koonce, James G., Sr. & Dorothy  
408 Wooddale Ave.  
New Caastle, DE 19720  
(302) 322-7118

Koonce, James F. & Mona  
11723 raindrop  
San Antonio, TX 78216

Koonce, James G. Koonce II  
4211 S. Sycamore Place  
Broken Arrow, OK 74011

Weatherford, Karmen S.  
4601 S. Butternut Ave.  
Broken Arrow, OK 74011

Jones, Kamelle S. Koonce  
9715 S. 92nd East Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74113

Koonce, Helen Louise  
1007 East 36th St.  
Joplin, MO 64804

# LAST WILL OF DANIEL KOONCE, SR. 1755-1823, ONSLOW Co. NC

In the name of God Amen: I Daniel Koonce of the County of Onslow and State of north Carolina being of sound mind and perfect memory Blessed be God, This 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September One thousand Eight Hundered and Twenty One do make and publish this my Last Will and Testament in manner as follows that is to say I resign my Soul to Almighty God ad my body to its mother clay.

ITEM: Will and desire that all my just debts to be paid and funeral expenses.

ITEM: I give and bequeath to my son Daniel Koonces' heirs one dollar to them and their heirs forever.

ITEM: I give and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth McDaniel one dollar to her and her heirs forever.

ITEM: I give and bequeath to my son George one dollar to him and his heirs forever.

ITEM: I give and bequeath to my son Lewis Koonce one cow and calf to him and his heirs forever.

ITEM: I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary Gornito one cow and calf to her and her heirs forever.

ITEM: I loan to my beloved wife Wenney Koonce all my lands and plantations where I now live that is on the east side of the South West Branch of New River with all my working tools during her widowhood and if she should marry then the one third part of the before mentioned lands and plantations during her life for the purpose of raising supporting and schooling my four youngest children Michael, Holland, Penelope and Louisa

Koonce, clear of any charge against my or theirs estate, also, I lend to my wife all household and kitchen furniture, also all the rest of my stock of cattle previous to the aforementioned, also to sows and pigs and horse named Spark, one cart, one riding chair, during widowhood, then to have a child's part with my four youngest children as before named and also my desire is that after the death of wife all my aforementioned lands to be equally divided between my four youngest children namely Michael, Holland, Penelope, and Louisa Koonce.

ITEM: I give to my beloved wife five head of sheep during her life also two beds and furniture.

My will and desire is that all my lands on the west side of the South West Branch of New River to be sold at the discretion of my Executor for the purpose of discharging of my debts and all the rest of my property not mentioned to be sold for the like manner.

And I hereby make and appoint my son Lewis Koonce and my worthy friend Emanuel Jarman my Executors to this my Last Will and Testament in witness whereof I the said Daniel Koonce set my hand and affixed my seal the day and date first above written.

Daniel Koonce (Seal)  
in th presence of

Signed and sealed and delivered

David Gornito; Miler W. Spight

Onslow Co.: In court Aug. Term 1823 this will of Daniel Koonce proved by David Gornito and Emanuel Jarman of the Executors herein named qualified thereto. B. Lester Clk; By R. C. Lester, Asst. CC

## Letter from Dennis Jones, Richlands, NC.

October 31, 1996

Dear John,

Enclosed is a check covering my 1997 dues. Keep up the good work.

The summer of 1996 was really bad for your ancestral homeland in southeastern North Carolina. On July 12th Hurricane Bertha passed directly over us doing major damage. Then on September 5-6, 1996 Hurricane Fran did considerably more damage. I lost two oak trees with Bertha and twelve other trees with Fran. Then tropical depression Josephine brought us six inches of rain within 24 hours. Over 85% of our beach homes on Topsail Island were lost. Water still has not been restored to the beach. We lost 75% of our corn crop with Bertha, in what would have been a

bumper crop year. Tobacco and cotton were hurt with all the wind and rain. I spend each available day still cleaning up the debris and sawing up trees.

I am sad to inform you of the death of Darris Koonce, the elderly lawyer we visited in Jones County, during your visit to North Carolina. I have enclosed a copy of his obituary as it appeared in THE JONES POST on September 26, 1996. He is descended through James Thomas Koonce, (1888-1955); Ezra Edward Koonce, (1849-1897), John Council Bryan Koonce, (1816-1861), Emanuel Koonce (1774-1822), Captain Michael Koonce (1730-1782); and George Koonce (1704-1778), the sole surviving child of John Koonce (aka Cunitz), the immigrant German settler who was killed

in September 1712 by the Tuscarora Indians in Craven county, NC. I will certainly miss Mr. Darris and his wealth of information he often shared with me regarding our Koonce ancestors and their vast lands in Jones County.

Well, I must close for now, as I have another busy day at school awaiting me tomorrow. I will become principal of Richlands High School as of December 1, 1996. Although I'm excited about the opportunity, I realize that it will certainly bury my opportunities to do genealogical work. So I must rely on you and others to keep up the great work of tracing the Koonces of North Carolina. Please stop by whenever you return to North Carolina. Give my regards to Nancy.

Sincerely, Dennis E. Jones

# BRAINSTORMS re: KOONCE RESEARCH

Anthony & Pavla Chandler; P. O. Box 906; Hawkins, TX 75765, suggested this way of sharing information and hopefully not duplicating time and money in our research. Below is a list of things they are researching. If you have any of this information or want to help in one of these areas let them know.

1. Write England: (I have two letters going off today, 11 October 1996) St. Catherine's, other: re. Immigrants of 1709-1710. Other records in England besides the published lists of immigrants to London? Any lists of those chosen by de Graffenried? Lists of sustenance given? Other? North Carolina Colonial Records Vol. IV, p. 964: 10 July 1749: Palatines including Jacob Sheets presented list of those original Palatines and/or heirs of those deceased. List revised and resubmitted 10 November 1749; list not in NC Colonial Records - England's?
2. Write Germany: (I have a letter off, 11 October 1996). Lists of immigrants ca. 1709-1710: places of origin, etc.
3. Write Switzerland:  
Ratsmanuale of the City of New Bern (City Minute Book of the Council) - lists of information on each immigrant who left on voyage to Carolina.
4. NC:
  - a. Earliest birth, death records? In Archives? Earliest obituaries? Marriages?
  - b. Early Koonces and wives:  
John Koonce b. 1727-1791, m. Catron/Catherine \_\_\_\_\_  
Jacob Koonce, 1728-1784; m. Martha/Patsy \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Koonce, 1736-1782; m. 1.) \_\_\_\_\_ 2.) Eliz. \_\_\_\_\_  
George Koonce, Jr. 1734-18\_\_; m. \_\_\_\_\_ Avery Co.?  
Christian Koonce, 1733-1791; Duplin Co.; m. Philopena b. \_\_\_\_ d. 1827.  
Tobias Koonce, 1733-1771; Duplin Co.; m. Ann Gibson (daughter of Wm. Gibson).  
All the above left wills. Have any of their children's death records been checked for patents' names? Mothers' maiden names? Do any other wills/probate records of the time period/counties mention "Koonce" - (sons-in-law)?
  - c. DAR: Koonces?
  - d. Have all colonial/early records of NC been published? Any still existent and just put away vs. Published? Who would know - Archives?
  - e. NC queries: Other relatives, other records existent?
  - f. Any research done in Avery Co.?
  - g. Where all have been checked for the marriage of George Koonce, Sr.? Adjoining counties to Craven and Jones?
  - h. Some authors list Johan's wife as Alys/ Alice; where is this information gotten from?
  - i. The original Bath Co.: other early records pertaining to New Bern, Palatines?
5. LA: Christopher Koonce d. 1845. Has anyone checked with the Archives for nformation on him?
6. 6. What source lists that George Koonce was among those captured by Tuscarora Indians then released? What other information is included in this source?
7. Has anyone tracked the area between Jones Co., NC and Sumner Co. TN for the will of George Koonce, Jr.?
8. Any old church records existent for Craven/Jones counties in NC? The church George Koonce signed the petition re. In 1748-9?
9. Kornegay data, a copy of which was in the vertical file, Washington DAR? What information did the author have to say Koonce is a Swiss family?
10. VA: Since the area the Palatines landed at was part of another state, what records if any exist of the Palatines? The man who helped them upon their arrival: did he leave any records?

# JOHN P. KOONCE / Autobiography

I am John Paul Koonce of 1821 37th St.; Somerset, Wisconsin 54025, the youngest of eight children. Born on 22 November 1942 at Miller hospital, in Ramsey Co., St. Paul, Minnesota. The seventh of seven sons born to Robert Adrian (1904-1979) and Ann Marie (nee Sedor 1906-1949) Koonce.

I started school in first grade in St. Cloud, Minnesota at St. Mary's Catholic School in 1948. We lived SW of St. Cloud, MN on Pleasant Lake. That halloween my only sister, Carol, her friend Leann Luckemeyer, took me trick and treating. As we were going out the driveway I saw a falling star. Leann told me that sometimes they hit the earth and make big holes that little boys fall in. I went back home.

My brothers and dad were digging a drainage ditch just before winter and then it snowed. The ditch filled with snow and I stepped in it and couldn't get out. After what seemed a long time, my brother Ed came to my rescue. He became my favorite brother for a long time.

When my mother died of cancer, in February 1949, I went to Duluth, MN to stay with my mother's sister, Ida Siven and her husband Carl. While in Duluth I went to first grade at St. James Catholic school with my cousins Dan & Dick Siven. Dan was the closest in to my age, so we played together. Carl & Ida had an egg distribution route. Dan & I took advantage of that and stole some eggs and threw them at cars. We didn't get caught doing that but they did wonder what we were doing with the eggs. The Duncan yo-yo man would come around to the school playground during recess and do all kinds of fancy tricks with his yo-yo. It was just a pitch to sell the kids yo-yo's and strings. We all had them but never got as good as the salesman. One time Dan and I and some other kids filled paper bags with sand. We climbed the fire escape and dropped our "bombs" to the ground. The Catholic priest, Father Krispin, caught us and made us clean it all up. On Saturday afternoons we would go to the movies. The feature movie escapes me but I remember the serial was Superman. Every week there would be another part of the story, like today's soap operas. The last one I saw was



John Paul Koonce about 1948 on Pleasant Lake, SW of St. Cloud, Minnesota

when Lois Lane was caught in Spider woman's web. Is there anybody out there that knows if or how she got out. It's been worrying me for forty-seven years.

After that, my brother Don and I took a three day train ride out to Kennewick, Washington, to stay with my dad's sister, Josephine, and her husband, Bill Spicer. To this day I don't like to ride on trains. While there I finished first grade at a public school.

There was a lot wild asparagus growing in the fields around there. Don and I went into out to pick some when we saw a snake. Don being older than me decided he would have some fun and told me that it was a rattle snake. When I started to run for the road he said there were a lot more by the road. I must have passed out from fear because I don't remember leaving the field.

Uncle Bill Spicer would take us into the Horse Heaven Hills with his Jeep and shoot jack rabbits with a pistol while driving. Wild Bill Hickok couldn't have impressed me more. There was an irrigation ditch behind their house. Don told me that it was a bottomless pit lined with quick sand. Any time he did something wrong he said if I told on him he would throw me in the ditch and they would never find me. If I suddenly disappear after writing this article, look

in the ditch at Kennewick.

From Kennewick I went and stayed with family friends, Guy and Geraldine Clark, in Roseville, Minnesota. While with them I went to St. Rose of Lima Catholic school. There I made my first communion. Across the road from Clarks, on Lake Owasso, was a family names Calendar. They had a daughter about my age named Olivia. She had Bozo the Clown records and story books. I spent a lot of time at their house. That was my home until July 1950, when dad married Thelma Irene Morrissey.

Then we moved into 785 Fauquire Ave. on the east side of St. Paul, Minnesota. where I went to third grade at Sacred Heart, Catholic school.

We moved to 765 Pelham Blvd. in St. Paul and I went to fourth and fifth grade at St. Cecilians Catholic school. One winter day we were coloring with red colored chalk and my hands got covered with it. I had a job delivering papers after school and when the route manager saw my hands he thought they were freezing. He did the deliveries that day and I never said anything. Don would be proud of me.

965 Selby was our home after that and I went to sixth through eighth grade at St. Luke's Catholic school in St. Paul. That's where I was an altar boy under the direction of Father Kennedy.

Then we moved to 1643 Lois Dr. New Brighton, Minnesota where I attended all four years of High School at Mounds View High, and graduated in 1960.

In July 1960 I joined the U. S. Navy and went to boot camp at Great Lakes, Illinois, then went to Memphis, Tennessee to Aviation Structural Mechanics school. From there I went aboard the Aircraft Carrier, USS Independence, CVA 62 where I worked on the flight deck in the catapult crew of "CAT 3" as a "Jet Blast Deflector Operator" until my discharge in August 1963.

On 31 December 1963 I met Nancy Ann Schroeder (28 May 1945-). We were married on 4 April 1964 at St. Francis De Sales Catholic Church in St. Paul. Our first residence was the upper unit of a duplex at 4133 Humboldt Ave. North

*(Continued on page 7)*



(Continued from page 6)

Minneapolis, behind Bob & Betty Jakowski. I knew them when they lived on Lois Dr. in New Brighton when I was going to high school.



John while serving aboard the Aircraft Carrier USS Independence, CVA 62

Later that year we moved to an upper unit of a duplex at 432 Whitall St. on the east side of St. Paul, MN. This is where we lived when our first child, Craig Anthony Koonce was born 20 November 1964 at Swedish Hospital in Minneapolis.

My brother Ed, and his wife Erma, owned and lived in a duplex on 785 Bradley St., also on the east side. When they moved to Lauderdale, MN, we moved into the lower unit of their duplex.

We had a big, fenced back yard and I wanted to build a bar-be-cue. I bought the cement blocks and cement. There was a sand pile in a lot nearby where I stole enough sand to mix the cement. It turned out great. I was very proud until it started crumbling in a couple of months. That's when I discovered the sand I stole was used to put on the highways in the winter and it had salt mixed in with it.

Leah Marie, our other child was born 18 December 1965 at St. John's Hospital in St. Paul. We moved to Bemidji later that year. Nancy's family owned the Bemidji Potato Company and we worked at the potato warehouse. Men were paid \$1.25 an hour and the women were paid \$1.00 because they were not required to load box cars with 500 100 lb. potato sacks.

In 1967 we moved in with my sister, Carol, in St. Paul, when I started an

apprenticeship in printing at Dahl & Curry Typesetters in Minneapolis. Soon we rented the lower unit of a duplex at 1049 24th Ave. SE, Minneapolis. Three years later we bought that duplex and lived there until September 1979 when we moved to our present location on 10 acres near Somerset, WI.

My apprentice was completed in September 1971. I left Dahl & Curry to work for the Minneapolis Star & Tribune Newspaper, where I still work.

My political activities in the Union started then. I was elected to the executive board of Minneapolis Local #42 of the International Typographical Union and later was elected President. For a total of 14 years I had the opportunity to serve our union in every elected position except Business Agent.

On 20 February 1968 Craig married Sherri Ann Mackenzie at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater Minnesota. Craig & Sherri had three boys, John Douglas (b. 25 March 1988), Chad Anthony (b. 22 August 1989) and Tyler Lee (b. 1 December 1990). They were divorced and Craig married Pamula Kaye Schmidt Wiemer on 13 July 1996 on the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. They now live in Star Prairie, Wisconsin. Pamula had a son, Albert (Bert) Thomas Schmidt, b. 1 June 1986 from a previous marriage which ended in divorce.

Leah married first, Douglas Iverson on 2 March 1986 in Hawaii. They were later divorced. She had a daughter, Chantelle Nicole, born 27 February 1988 in Hawaii, with Rick Bordelon. She then married second, Thomas D. Goff in Somerset, Wisconsin. No children. Leah married third, Kevin Leroy Johnson on 23 January 1993 in Portland, Oregon. No children. They are now living in Hughesville, MD.

This story would not be complete without some grandchildren stories.

A couple of years ago I had one of those fuzzy puppets that you side on your arm. With a house full of company the boys showed up and I put the puppet on my arm. Tyler was afraid of it. Chad wanted to pet it. John looked at it for a long time, then asked, "Grandpa, why do you have your arm up it's butt?"

Six year old Chad and five year old Tyler were at our house, but didn't know grandma was listing to them.

Tyler: "Last summer I had a wood tic on my boob."

Chad: "Tyler, boys don't have boobs. We have chests. Except when we get old like grandpa, then they just look like boobs."

When five year old Chantelle was visiting us a couple of years ago she was lying on the bed watching television. Nancy and I were in the kitchen when Nancy hollered at me. I ran in the bedroom, jumped on the bed crying. Chantelle, without a word, got out of bed, went to the kitchen and said, "Grandma, sit down. We have to talk. This is very serious. Don't holler at my grandpa!"

For those of you that have grandchildren, no more need be said. For those that don't. Let me say right now, it makes all of life worthwhile.

I have been interested in genealogy



John with Alice Koonce at her home in refugio, Texas. Alice is the foundation of all the North Carolina Koonce research.

since about 1972 when my daughter asked, "Daddy, why do you say we are German?". In 1994 I started publishing the newsletter, **KOONCE to KOONCE**. Which brings us to the point of writing this Profile. If you will take a few minutes to complete the insert in this issue, we can record the history of Koonces for many more years and keep this newsletter as interesting as possible. Remember, any pictures can be returned if you request them.



## ??? QUERIES ???

Who were the parents of John Floyd Koonce who died in McAllen, TX after 1984 leaving one sister, Mrs. Lola Spence of Clyde, Ohio. See obit on page 9 of this publication.

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*Jim & Jeanie Koonce; 408 Wooddale Ave.; New Castle, DE 19720* are looking for information on Andrew Willis Koonce who died in Chandler, OK in 1920.

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*Sherry Skorkowsky; 112 West First; Tyler, Texas*, says there is a possibility that King David Koonces' father was Jessie. She would like to communicate with any Koonces in or around Maury Co. TN. Sherry also wants any record of Jesse Koonce in Maury Co. around 1800-1830.

\*\*\*\*\*

Any documented information of George & Susannah Koonce in Jones Co. NC 1790 and in Wilson Co. Tennessee in 1811. *James Hargraves; 7698 Lak-eridhe Circle; Elk Grove, CA 95624-9650; (916) 682-9826.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Any information on Doyal & Shirley Koonce from Illinois. They would be about 60 years old now. *Send info. to Koonce Genealogical Society.*

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Who are the parents of Council Koonce b. abt 1865 probably in Jones Co. NC. His seven children were: (1) Lillia; (2) Willie; (3) Suddie; (4) John; (5) a girl; (6) Thomas, b. 18 Oct 1889, Jones Co. NC, m. Lillie May Heath; (7) Amos.

\*\*\*\*\*

John Koonce b. abt 1801-3 m. Mahala.. Lived in Memphis in 1860. Later moved to Mt. Pleasant, TX. Had a daughter, Nancy b. 1839 m. Henry M. Hays. Who were his parents? Where was he born? What was Mahala's maiden name? *Query from Larry W. Smith, Hwy. 52, Celina, TN. (615) 243-3479.*

## Koonces with a Truck & a Buck



The painter truck in action. As Robert Jerome "Bob" Koonce controls paint flow to the nozzle beneath the truck, Cliff Reber drops rubber cones at 50-foot intervals which will warn traffic away from the wet paint. "One time we were painting in northern Minnesota", said Bob Koonce, "when some kids greased the cones and stuck Bull Thistles in the tops. When we went to pick them up our hands would slide up and grab the thorns so hard our hands would bleed. A quick look in the woods, where the kids were hiding, we could see they were laughing so hard it seemed the whole woods were shaking." Bob retired after 37 years with the Minnesota Highway department and now spends his time fishing, hunting, playing golf outside and on his computer. He is the son of Robert A. Koonce and a descendant of the North Carolina Koonces.



William Russell "Bill" Koonce with his 1996 10 Point Buck taken near Effie in northern Minnesota. Is it a nice one? "Ya, You Betcha" Bill is the son of Robert & Harriet (nee Linder) Koonce.



One year old Jessica Lynn Koonce, daughter of Bill & Heather (nee McCauley) Koonce with the new swing that daddy made for her from "Bambi's Daddie"

# Obituaries

(Reprinted from the St. Paul Pioneer Press,  
Tuesday July 20, 1993 P. 4B)

## STEVEN R. KOONCE

Steven R., age 38 of Circle Pines. Former employee of Farmer Brothers Coffee Co. Preceded in death by mother Grace. Survived by wife Sue; children Sarah, Joe and Peter; father John Koonce of Zapata, TX; brother Jeff Koonce of Circle Pines; father & mother-in-law Dale & Lea Whitesel of Omaha, NE; numerous other relatives & friends. Mass of Christian Burial 10:30am Wednesday at St. Joseph Church of Lino Lakes, 171 Elm St. NE. 8 pm rosary service at the church. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery. Arr. Miller Funeral Home, 571-1300.

\*\*\*\*\*

## JOHN RAYMOND KOONCE

John Raymond, formerly of St. Paul, MN Teamster Local #120, died at his home in Zapata, TX, Nov 17, 1993, age 61. He was the son of Homer Floyd and Kathern (nee Fullerton) Koonce. Preceded in death by son Steven; wife Grace (Beth); brother Charles and sister Margaret. Survived by son John (Jeff); brother Wesley; sister Francis; sister Lila and 5 grandchildren. Memorial service with military honors was held Nov 22, 1993 at JACKSON FUNERAL HOME, Zapata, TX.

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From GREENVILLE, ILLINOIS ADVOCATE  
March 1915

## IMOGENE FRANCES KOONCE

(Virginia line of Koonces)

Joseph Lewis Koonce has received news of the death of his niece, Imogene Frances (Koonce) Young of Baltimore, Md. and a native of Bond County, whose father, George Koonce, of Harper's Ferry, Va. had some harrowing experiences during the Civil War, as in fact did also his daughter, the decedent.

Mrs. Young was born 11 December 1841 on a farm known as the Lansing farm one mile east of Greenville, her father having moved his family here from the east in 1841. When she was 6 years of age her parents took her to Harper's Ferry.

In 1861 when the war broke out, her father, George Koonce, was run out of Harper's Ferry because he was a Union man. The family came here and the daughter went to school at Almira College for several years. When things quieted down Mr. Koonce returned to Harper's Ferry and when the Confederates captured the city his daughter was in the cellar with the

family to avoid flying shells. Mr. Koonce was forced to flee Harper's Ferry a second time and so he joined a Union regiment as a sutler. (Note: Suttler is a person who follows an army and sells provisions, etc. to the soldiers.) When the war was closed he returned to Harper's Ferry and became wealthy.

Mrs. Young is survived by her husband, Rev. Charles Eugene Young, and one brother, George Willard of Harper's Ferry, and one sister, Alice, living in Richmond, Va. She was a member of the Congregational church.

The husband is a college professor. The burial took place at Harper's Ferry.

\*\*\*\*\*

## WILLIAM THURMAN KOONCE

1897-1964

From Buck Claxtons 1992 book,  
"Descendants of John Koonce" Page 51.

William Thurman Koonce went to Akron, Ohio when he was about 21 years old. He was employed by a tire and rubber company and they spelled his name Koontz and he never corrected it and spelled it that way the rest of his life. In late 1927 he left Akron and went to Phoenix, Arizona where he and Esther lived for many years. They moved to Clarkdale, Arizona and lived there until his death. He was in the service station business at Clarkdale until he retired because of his arthritis. His wife found him in a coma on the morning of April 12, 1964 and he died in the hospital that afternoon without coming out of the coma. Burial was at Clarkdale, Arizona.

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## ESTHER LUCILE ORIN KOONCE

1898-1974

From Buck Claxtons 1992 book,  
"Descendants of John Koonce" Page 52.

Esther Lucile Koonce (nee Orin), wife of William Thurman Koonce, taught school for many years at Akron, Ohio. After moving to Phoenix, Arizona continued teaching for several more years. Her last employment was with the welfare department from which she retired a few years before her death. She was visiting her sister Lois in the hospital in Akron when she had a heart attack. She was admitted to the hospital and died there about 1:00 A.M. Friday, August 16, 1974. Burial was in Clarkdale, Arizona. They had no children.

## KENNETH L. KOONCE

(NC Line of Koonces)

Kenneth L. Koonce, 66, of LaSalle, Illinois, died 4 a.m. Monday, January 2, in St. Francis Hospital, Peoria, Illinois. He had suffered a heart attack three weeks ago while visiting with a step-daughter in Bloomington, Illinois.

He was born in Mulberry Grove, Illinois, June 6, 1911, son of the late Theodore and Hannah (Wehrle) Koonce. He was married twice. His first marriage was to Faye Taylo of Clinton, Illinois. On July 13, 1953, he and Doris Kidwell were married and she survives.

Also surviving are daughters, Deloris Wise of Tovey, Illinois, Dorothy Wilson of Dalton City, Illinois, Donna Rasor of Clinton, Illinois, Shirley of Freeport, Illinois, son, Dean of Illiopolis, Illinois, step-children, Shirley Schoppf of Vermont, David Cox of Freeport, Carole McCubbins of Heyworth; brothers, Woodrow W. Koonce of Mulberry Grove, Illinois, Robert D. Koonce of Greenville, Illinois, sisters, Mrs. Robert (Geraldine) McElmurry of Winston, Oregon, Mrs. Edgar (Evelyn) Walker, Jr. of Pocahontas, Illinois, 21 grandchildren, several step-grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A brother, Ira G. Koonce, died October 3, 1972.

Mr. Koonce was a retired fireman and engineer, having worked for the Illinois Central railroad over 30 years.

Funeral rites were to be held in LaSalle.

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## JOHN FLOYD KOONCE

McAllen - Graveside services for John Floyd Koonce, 96, who died Friday at McAllen Methodist Hospital, will be held Monday at 10 A. M. at Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery in Edinburg with the Rev. Thomas Pugh of the First Baptist Church of Edcouch officiating.

He was a native of the state of Pennsylvania and had lived most of his life in Owensboro, Kentucky, before moving to the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas in May 1980. He made his home with his sister Frances Baker, who preceded him in death on November 5, 1984.

He is survived by one sister, Mrs. Lola Spence of Clyde, Ohio, and several nieces and nephews.

Skinner Funeral home of Edinburg, Texas is in charge of arrangements.

# Obituaries

*From the Greenville, Illinois Advocate  
Thursday May 20 1907  
(Virginia line of Koonces)*

## PIONEER RESIDENT DIES AT HIS HOME

Christopher H. Koonce passes away at Southeast Prairie.

Settled here in the forties. Funeral to be held at the Presbyterian Church this Morning.

Christopher H. Koonce one of the oldest settlers of the county died at his home in Southeast Prairie at eight o'clock Tuesday morning, after an illness of two weeks of the grip which culminated in heart trouble.

Mr. Koonce was the son of Nicholas and Elizabeth Koonce and was born in Jefferson Co. Virginia, January 31, 1825 and therefore in his eighty third year at his time of death.

He came to Bond Co. 1840 in company with his parents and lived here ever since. Since May 22, 1844 he lived in the vicinity of the place where he breathed his last.

Mr. Koonce was married in Edgar County to Miss Jane Wait, who was a sister of John Wait editor of the Greenville Journal in early days.

Mrs. Koonce died about thirty years ago. To them were born ten children, five whom died in infancy and youth. The surviving children are Charles E. of Valley Ridge; Jacob H.; George W.; Mrs. Lucy E. Bunch, wife of Leroy Bunch; and Miss Hattie S. Koonce, all of this county. He is survived by two brothers, J. L. Koonce of this city and George of Jefferson Co. VA. and by one sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Lovett of Southeast Prairie, and by nine grandchildren. All the children are here to attend the funeral.

Mr. Koonce was a member of the congregational Church for many years. Funeral services will be held at 10 O'clock this morning at the Presbyterian Church and the body will be interred in the Old Cemetery beside that of his wife and children. Rev. Alison Hunter will officiate. He will be assisted by Rev. R. S. Stevenson.

\*\*\*\*\*

*(Parts from the Greenville, Illinois Advocate,  
13 May 1870 - N.C. line of Koonces)*

## ELIZABETH JANE KOONCE

Elizabeth Jane (nee Stout) Koonce died 13 May 1870. Survived by her husband, James Russell Koonce; Two Daughters; Alice May (nee Koonce) Simmons and Martha Belle. Two sons Albert G. Koonce and Jesse J. Koonce. Elizabeth was preceded in death by her son

William Edward. Martha's remains were buried in Mulberry Grove Cemetery along side her son Edward.

\*\*\*\*\*

*(From "Obituaries and Register of  
Deaths in the Greenville, Illinois Advocate  
1858-1899" page 50.)*

## MARY ALICE SIMMONS

Alice Simmons, daughter of James R. & (Elizabeth) Jane (nee Stout) Koonce, was born in Bond County, Illinois, November 8, 1857 and died at her father's home in Mulberry Grove, Illinois, June 17, 1883, aged 25 years, 7 months and 9 days. She leaves a little girl, Gracie. Her remains were placed in the cemetery with her mother and brother.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ETTA MARIE KOONCE

Janetta Mariam KOONCE, 91 yrs. 9 mo. 3 days, Mulberry Grove, IL Passed away at the Smith Nursing Home, Mulberry Grove, at 11:15 PM Saturday, Aug. 31, 1957.

She was born in Bond Co. IL November 28, 1865. Daughter of James and Irene Morgan Pigg. She was a life long resident of Mulberry Grove. She was Married to James R. Koonce on August 3, 1883. He died April 26, 1925.

The Deceased was a member of the Mulberry Grove Free Methodist Church & WCTU.

Survivors are: Children, Mrs. Anita Holcomb, Indianapolis; Mrs. Roxie Beaty, Morrisville; Mrs. Dessie Hampton, Greenville; Mrs. Alta Taylor, Nakomis; Clarence Koonce, Illiopolis; Howard Koonce, Decatur, Benny Koonce, Jacksonville; James Koonce, Los Angels, Ca; A daughter and son preceded her in death. There are 17 grandchildren, 31 great grandchildren and 11 great great grandchildren.

Services were conducted at 1 pm Tuesday in Mulberry Grove Free Methodist Church by Rev. J.L. Mayhew, assisted by the local pastor, Rev. Henry Shackley. Interred in Mulberry Grove Cemetery.

Ripperdon Funeral Service in charge.

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## IRA GLEN KOONCE

*(NC line of Koonces)*

Ira Koonce, 63, a resident of Vandalia died at 9:45 a.m. Tuesday, October 3, 1972, in Fayette County, Illinois Hospital.

Burial was in Fairlawn cemetery at Vandalia, Illinois.

Born in Bond County on August 31, 1909 the son of Theodore and Hannah (Wehrle) Koonce, he was a carpenter by trade.

His survivors include the widow, the former Clara Oldham, whom he married February 11, 1969 in Vandalia, daughter, Mrs. Glynda Hagynasy of Decatur; stepchildren, Raymond Oldham, Delores Oldfield, and Mrs. Gyula Hill, all of Vandalia, Mrs. Joyce Davis of Highland, Mrs. Pam McWhorter of Effingham; brothers, Kenneth of LaSalle, Woodrow of Mulberry Grove, and Robert of Greenville; sisters, Mrs. Geraldine Beesley of Winston, Ore., and Mrs. Evelyn Walker of Pocahontas.

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*From the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Tuesday,  
April 18, 1995*

## R. T. "THEO" KOONCE

FORT WORTH—R.T. "Theo" Koonce, 85, a carpenter, died of Alzheimer's disease Monday, April 17, 1995, at a Fort Worth hospital. Funeral was Wednesday at Mount Olivet Funeral Home. Burial was in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Mr. Koonce was born in Mansfield, Texas. He was a carpenter in Fort Worth for 50 years. He was a member of the Gospel Assembly.

His first wife, Mary Koonce, died in June 1973.

Survivors: Wife, Patricia Koonce of Fort Worth; son, R.T. Koonce Jr. of North Richland Hills, two stepsons, Bob Macon of Killeen and David Macon of Fort Worth; three daughters, Evelyn K. Lowey of Ennis, Linda Hester of Fort Worth and Brenda Ford of Longview; three step-daughters, Cathy Jost of Maypearl, Lirida Davis of Bedford and Molly Carpenter of Danbury; sister, Stella Choate of Meridian; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

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## WILLIAM W. KOONCE

*(from Buck Claxton book, "DESCENDANTS  
OF JOHN KOONCE," PAGE 4.)*

Mr. William Koonce, age 74 years, 1 month and 26 days. He died at his daughters, Mrs. Belle Morton near Wartrace, June 23, 1902. Mr. Koonce was a soldier during the War in which he lost his health and has been very feeble since. He was highly respected old gentleman and liked by all who knew him. The funeral services were held at the Mt. Olivet church Tuesday by Rev. John Holland. Burial in the Arnold Cemetery, Bedford Co. Tennessee.

*Note from Claxton book: William was a private in the Federal Army, 5th Regiment of the Tennessee Cavalry, Co. F. They lived in the 23rd district of Bedford Co., near Wartrace.*

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# Aaron Koonce, 1994 Trumpeter At Grapevine, TX Highschool

*(This article was taken from The Grapevine, Texas Sun Newspaper, February 3, 1994 - This family is from the North Caroline line of Koonces)*

Three members of the Grapevine, Texas High School Mustang Band have earned positions in one of the Texas Music Educators Association All State groups.

Senior Barbara Finkemeyer, Sophomore Katie Combest and freshman Aaron Koonce will represent Grapevine High School at the Association's Annual clinic and convention February 9-12, in San Antonio. Aaron Koonce is the grandson of Alice & Pinky Koonce (see **KOONCE to KOONCE** Newsletter from January 1994 page 11).

This is one of the highest honors that a high school musician can attain in the state, according to school officials.

More than 30,000 Texas high school musicians began the audition process in the fall of 1993.

Only the top 3 percent of high school music students reach the all state level.

The students audition for a position in one of the two orchestras or two bands when they get to San Antonio.

Aaron, a trumpet player, is a freshman at Grapevine, Texas High School, and it is considered unusual for a freshman to achieve the status of making it to an all state level of competition.

Aaron is the first freshman in the history of Grapevine High School to achieve this honor. He is the son of Larry and Pat Koonce of Grapevine, and his instructor is Lisa Dodd.

The students will perform on Feb. 12 in the Lila Cockrell Theater of the San Antonio Convention Center.



Aaron Koonce, son of Larry & Pat  
Koonce of Grapevine, Texas



# KOONCE to KOONCE

July 1997

Official Publication of the Koonce Genealogical Society

Volume 4 Issue 3

## KOONCE-HORRELL

(State of Virginia Koonce line. Received from Lindell Koonce)

(Taken from Pulaski County, IL History, 1819-1987. Written before the death of Clarence in 1987)

Elmer Jacob Koonce, the youngest and seventh child of Nicholas Koonce II and Margaret Phillips, married Lora Dell Horrell in 1900. Lora Dell died in 1927. Elmer lived and worked most of his life of 65 years on the farm his father cleared on Ridge Road east of Villa Ridge, IL. Elmer and Lora's six children are:

Clarence Phillip (1901) [See *Snack Shack Picture*] married Opal Reed (1903-1973) of Grand Chain and had four sons who were all born in Pulaski Co. The family later moved to Waterloo and then to northern Illinois where Clarence retired. He now lives in Watseka as do three of his sons; John, Raymond and Joel. The oldest son, Shadley, died in 1982 leaving a widow, Helen, and three sons with families in the Waterloo area. Clarence has nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Harry Ross (1903) married Leatha Hitchcock of Massac Co. Their three children, Lindell, Janice and Clinton Dale (died in infancy) were all born in Mounds. Harry transferred frequently in his career with the ICRR and retired as Superintendent at Carbondale in 1968, where he now lives. They have seven grandchildren (Bradley Baker died at age eight) and three great-grandchildren.

Edward Nicholas (1907) married Ninnie Dell Thomas of Mounds and continues to live there although his work with the ICRR required brief absences before his retirement as Yard master at Cairo. A son Robbie and a daughter Sandra (Gahan) were born in Mounds and both presently live in Tennessee. There are five grandchildren. Edward is active in civic affairs and is currently a village alderman.

Vera Ruth (1909) married Bernard Lewis of Cape Girardeau, Mo., a widower with two sons. They lived briefly in Pulaski Co. then moved to the Lewis family farm near Cape Girardeau. After moving to Colorado, Vera was widowed and worked in Denver until retirement. She now resides in Van Buren, Mo. Her only child, a daughter, Evelyn (Walker) lives with her husband and two children in Alaska.

Ida Marie (1911) married James Dickerson of McComb, Ms. and lived briefly in Mounds before moving to Cairo. They had four daughters: Hannarose (Clue), Charron (Rasua), Diane (Jenner) and Vera Jeanette (died in infancy). Marie, now a widow and retired from the Dixon State School, lives in Polo.

Elmer Wilson (1916) married Marie Copeland of Rockford during WWII. They had one daughter Linda (Howe) Elmer was a B-25 bomber pilot and was decorated for his service in the South Pacific. He later married Marian Hill. They have one son, Nicholas and reside in Santa Barbara, Ca.

Elmer Jacob, following in his father's footsteps raised fruits and vegetables on the Koonce farm. He joined the other growers in the area shipping peaches, strawberries, blackberries, and asparagus by rail from Villa Ridge to Chicago.

Just before Christmas in 1916 the original home on the Koonce farm burned. The following spring Elmer built a new home at the home site on Ridge Road. This home has been well-maintained and is still occupied by the current owners of the farm.

Submitted by Ed Koonce

## SNACK SHACKS



TOP: Robert A. Koonce, NC Koonce line, sitting in white, was owner of The Snack Shack in St. Paul, MN in the 1930's. These two families are not connected and did not know each other.

BOTTOM: John Koonce, North East Koonce line, part-owner and grill man at the remodeled Snack Shack at Legion Park in Watseka, IL once planned parties for 1,400 persons at the Santa Barbara White House. If there's a disparity in the two roles, Koonce doesn't seem dismayed by it. His enthusiasm helps as he prepares an endless number of 30-cent mini-burgers. The menu includes standard summer fare, but John is planning something different in his latest venture. He wants to import shrimp from New Orleans for an all-you-can-eat bash. The Snack Shack, however, is a family operation as seen here. From left, Clarence P. Koonce, is the overseer while sons John and Robbie attend to the actual work. (I don't have a date for this Snack Shack but Clarence died in 1987 at the age of 86.)



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Mt. Olivet Baptist Church  
Charles Koonce

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## EDITORS CORNER

by John Paul Koonce



This issue, as in the April issue, contains an insert that will help you to write a short biography on yourself or any one or more of your Koonce ancestors. Please take the few minutes to complete it an return so we can keep having interesting newsletters.

Joan Ehrlich, of Portland, Oregon, has much information on Wilson county Tennessee. Anyone interested in research in that area should contact her. She will be happy to lookup information for you. This does not have to be just Koonce surnames. Her e-mail address is: <mmkoonc@molalla.net> and US mail address is: Joan Ehrlich, 33070 S. Sawtell Rd., Molalla, OR 97038

Work is being done by Sandi Koonce on a **KOONCE HOME PAGE** on the internet. If it works out well it may replace this newsletter. There are advantages to a home page. It can be updated and corrected daily. It can be downloaded and sent to people that are interested but not on the internet. Let me know if you have any comments or suggestions on this.

As always, we are in need of any pictures of Koonces, present day or past, or any related Koonce pictures and information to keep the Koonce Genealogical Society going, and to pass our heritage on to future generations. They will enjoy it as much as we enjoy reading and learning about our ancestors.

### Koonce Genealogical Society Newsletter **KOONCE to KOONCE**

is published quarterly in January, April, July and October. No attempt has been or will be made to verify the authenticity of any articles that are printed in this publication. It is intended to share information only. Send all inquiries to **KOONCE to KOONCE**, 1821 37th St. Somerset, WI 54025.

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John Paul Koonce, Somerset, WI, *Editor*

## CHANCERY COURT RECORD OF BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Page 338 No. 53 Blackman Koonce & others} O. Bill, filed  
Vs } August 27, 1860.  
Benjamin Reaves & others}

Blackman Koonce, Polly Morgan and her husband James D. Morgan, Mary J. Troxler and her husband William S. Troxler, Thomas Wilhoite admr of W. H. Koonce, deceased, Martha Reed and her husband William C. Reed, Sarah Sabrina who being a minor sues by her guardian Young Wilhoite, Virginia T. Koonce who being a minor sues by her guardian William S. Troxler, John P. Koonce and James A. Koonce who being minors sue by their guardian A. L. Landis, Elizabeth Reaves and her husband William Reaves, Jane Voorhies and her husband James Voorhies, William P. Koonce, Robert Hastings admr of Margaret L. Hastings, John P. Koonce in his own right as admr of Blackman A. Koonce and Elizabeth Koonce, John H. Shaw. Samuel G. Shaw and William G(?). Shaw, Margaret Pinckard (Pickard) and her husband Alexander Pinckard (Pickard), shows that on 21st July 1856, bill was filed which all the complainants except Thomas Wilhoite were parties and which Margaret Koonce and Margaret L. Koonce and Blackman A. Koonce and Elizabeth Koonce and William H. Koonce are also parties stated that John Koonce, Sr., departed this life intestate in Bedford County some 9 months, seized and possessed of tract of land in District No. 23 in Bedford County. Land bounded by William Galbreath's tract, and James Grant tract, about 212 acres, Poly Morgan, Margaret Pickard, Blackman Koonce, Elizabeth Reeves, Jane Voorhies and William W. Koonce, are children of John Koonce, Sr., deceased. Mary J. Troxler, William H. Koonce, Martha Reed, Margaret Koonce, Sarah Sabrina Koonce, Virginia T. Koonce, Eliza Ellenor Koonce, John F. Koonce and James A. Koonce are children of John Koonce, Jr. who was a son of John Koonce, Sr. William H. and Margaret Koonce died after sale of land, with Thomas Wilhoite your orator, admr of their estate. Margaret L. Hastings, John J. Koonce, Blackman A. Koonce and Elizabeth Koonce are children of Jesse Koonce who was a son of John Koonce, Sr. and who died intestate many years ago. Since sale of land, Elizabeth Koonce died and after her, Margaret Hastings died, and after her, Blackman A. Koonce died, all of them intestate and John J. Koonce is admr of the first and last of them and Robert Hastings is admr of Margaret Hastings. John H. and Samuel G. and William Shaw are children of a daughter of John Koonce, Sr., namely Sally and who died long before her father. Benjamin Reeves and Jesse Rogers are of Bedford County and William Rogers is of Illinois. Decree, March 1865, stated that John Koonce, Sr. departed this life in Bedford County intestate, about 10 years ago (1855) in District No. 23.

*(Copied from the book, "DESCENDANTS OF JOHN KOONCE"  
compiled by Marvin "Buck" Claxton 1992.)*

# JOHN CALVIN KOONCE DESCENDANTS

*From the Onslow Co. NC Heritage  
Book Page 282.*

John Calvin Koonce was born November 18, 1867, and died October 25, 1946. He was the son of John Parsons Koonce (1840-1872) and Virginia A. (Jenie) Koonce, daughter of Calvin and Amanda Haywood Koonce. Born in Jones Co., he lived most of his life in Onslow Co., farming and fishing.

John Calvin Koonce married first Elizabeth Edwards and there were five Children from this marriage.

The first son, Ray Edward Koonce, was born December 16, 1893, and died December 16, 1954. A civil engineer, he was the County Engineer for many years and worked for the Highway Department. He was the first engineer hired at Camp Lejeune. He married Onslow County Native Alma Petteway who was born May 19, 1894, and died October 18, 1969. She was the daughter of John Bruce Petteway (b. Feb. 14, 1868--Mar. 30, 1935) and Annie Elizabeth Howard Petteway (b. Mar. 8, 1871--d. Apr. 24, 1954). J. B. Petteway was Clerk of Court for many years and also owned a grocery store at the corner of Court and New Bridge Streets. The Petteways were active members of the Methodist Church of Jacksonville. Alma Petteway Koonce helped her father when he was Clerk of Court. Later, she worked for many years for Mr. Steve Aman when he went into business for himself. He built a new store near the Railroad Station at the south end of Court Street. This was a general merchandise store where the people of Jacksonville and the surrounding rural areas came to buy everything from wearing apparel, both for dress and for work, to items necessary to farm life such as seeds, fertilizers, and hardware. Alma Koonce possessed a keen sense of humor which her customers, family, and friends always enjoyed. Ray and

Alma Koonce had one child, Ray Edward Koonce, Jr., who was born October 19, 1916, and died August 12, 1969, in Onslow County. After finishing Jacksonville High School, Ray Jr. worked for several years at the first Pharmacy in Jacksonville, Johnson's Drugstore, owned by Dr. Graham Johnson. During World War II, he served four years in the U.S. Army, serving most of his time in an Army hospital outside London, England. After his Army service, he returned to his job at Johnson's Drugstore where he worked for the remainder of his life. On May 31, 1941, Ray Jr. married Holland Marie Hinton, born April 29, 1914. She is the daughter of Ransom P. Hinton, a merchant of Jacksonville, and Ellie Gurganus Hinton. Ray and Marie Koonce had two children: (1) Sue Ellen, born February 11, 1944, finished Jacksonville High School and graduated from East Carolina University. She married William Earl "Butch" Scott, Jr., the summer before she graduated. She taught in first grade at Thompson School and later in Camp Lejeune Schools at Tarawa Terrace. On February 7, 1971, she died at Cape Fear Hospital. (2) Ray Edward Koonce III, born January 6, 1950, finished Jacksonville High School and went to Atlantic Christian College. He married Donna Turner of Fayetteville while still in college. This marriage broke up after five years. He soon went to Richmond, VA with Universal Tobacco Company. After about two years he married Carolyn Shepard from Crozet, VA, near Charlottesville, VA. He now lives in Charlottesville.

The second Child of John Calvin and Elizabeth Koonce was Ike Koonce who died at the age of twelve.

The third child, Virginia Koonce (b. Dec. 25 1897), married F.W.K.

Kellum. Their children were Francis, Winslow, Elizabeth, Carrol Virgil, and Wakefield.

The fourth child, Mary Koonce, married Allen Wooten and had one daughter, Jean. They live in Virginia.

The fifth child, Edgar Payne Koonce (b. June 7, 1902), worked for 41 years for the North Carolina Highway Department. At his retirement, Mr. Carl Renfro from the State Highway Commission stated that Edgar Koonce was anxious to see "good highways come to eastern North Carolina...his deeds as Division Engineer will live for our children and children yet unborn." At the time of his retirement on July 1, 1967, he was Division Engineer of the Fourth Division, North Carolina Highway Department. Edgar Koonce was married to Katherine Bell of Washington, N.C., now deceased.

John Calvin Koonce married second Mary Herritage (1874-1947) c. 1904. Mary Herritage was a postal clerk in the 1930s for Miss Leah Franck, Postmistress. Their children were: (1) Sarah Esther (b. 1906) who married Charles Joseph Lamy of Massachusetts in 1929. Their daughter is Mary Rebecca (Becky) Lamy who was born at Fort Bragg. She graduated from Jacksonville High School and received a bachelor's degree from UNC-Greensboro in 1952. She works for the Department of Defense, Pentagon and has received awards for outstanding performance from the Army, Navy, and Air Force. (2) Margaret Haywood Koonce (b. Mar. 25, 1908) married William P. Legge (deceased) of South Carolina and lived in Washington, D.C., until she retired. She lives now in Jacksonville. They had one adopted son, Billy Legge.

*(Sources: Family records; personal knowledge.*

*--Marie Hinton Koonce Moore*

# 1811 LETTER TO MT. OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH WILSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Before being constituted into Big Cedar Lick Church April 25, 1801, it was known as Koonce's Meeting House. Koonce's meeting House was probably an arm of West Station Camp Church, Sumner County, Tennessee.

There were five Koonces on the first church roll; Phillip, Christopher (a Deacon), George, Susannah and Mary.

The best insight into the life in the early church comes from the actions of the monthly business conferences. One of the most fascinating convictions of the Christian forefathers emerges from those pages: a steadfast determination to maintain the church as the pure and undefiled bride of Christ. The privilege of bearing the name of Christian demanded the responsibility of demonstrating Christ-likeness, of living a disciplined life. The founding fathers were men of strong convictions, refusing to tolerate the least implication of unchristian behavior on the part of a brother. Their doctrine was Scriptural.

"Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us. And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

*II Thessalonians 3:6, 14-15"*

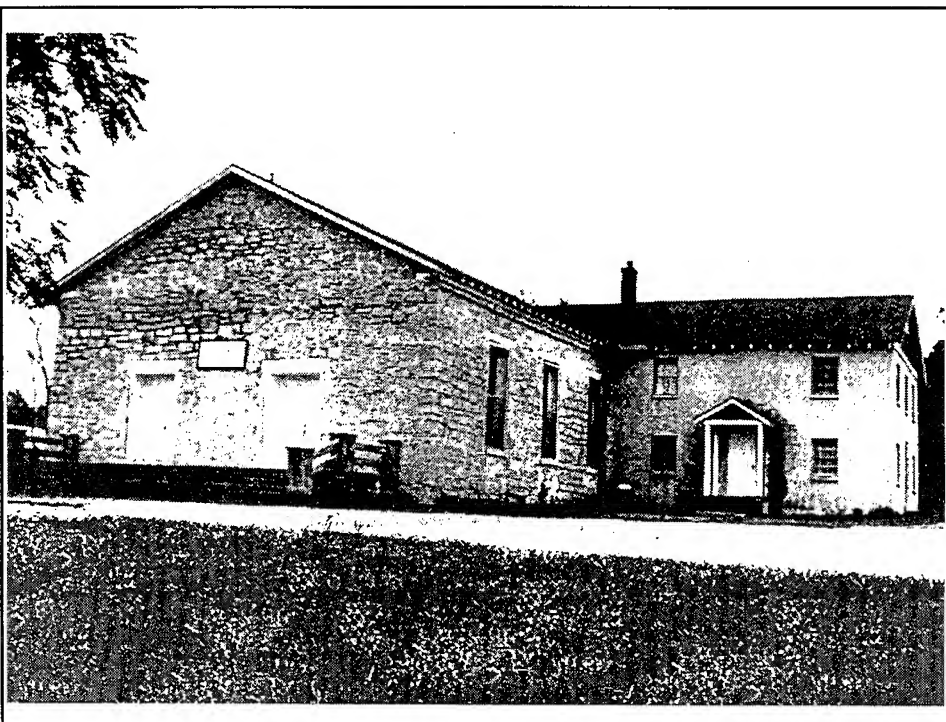
"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

*Galatians 6:1"*

The following letter was written by a member cited for belonging to a different church. It brings out some interesting thoughts.

## "To the Members of the Baptist Church on Cedar Lick Creek"

"Men and brethren, as I am called on by your Citation of me, to satisfy your Church in respect of my late conduct in not continuing a member of the same, suffer me in the following manner to relate the cause. In the first place, I am not agreed to your doctrine. When I read in God's word that the Gospel is Glad Tidings of Great Joy to all people, and that Christ by the Grace of God tasted death for every man with a variety of Scriptures to the same amount, I am not able to swallow down your camels of reprobation which you generally preach—next, your neglecting to urge the necessity of good works or holiness of heart and life every where enjoined in the Word of God, as the duty and



**BIG CEDAR LICK CHURCH constituted April 25, 1901. Before that it was called Koonce's Meeting House. It was located on Cedar Lick Creek.**

privilege of believers. Also your doctrine of final perseverance for those who apostatize and are described in the Word as ones in the True Vine, now fruitless, withered, broken off, and burned. Secondly, your Church Discipline, the matter in which you have dealt with offenders where the crime has been of the first magnitude, you have plastered it over by suffering them to justify themselves where testimony might have been had, or procured with ease. Has Sabbath breaking been discouraged or encouraged by your Society? With what patience have you viewed diabolical acts, practiced by some of your members without calling them to account for it? Also receiving members by a letter that probably has lay by them for ten or more years, perhaps during their winter state since they first believed? Let me add when I first embraced religion I was young and inexperienced in the world and took every person for a friend that seemed friendly. At that time I had not attended to your general assertions that those who professed to get Religion under Methodists was only deluded, and I have found out a secret since, that you are very ready to receive such deluded persons. Friends, I trust that you will be more consistent hereafter and if they are deluded tell them so like men and tell them that you

receive none but pure sheep into your fold, and that will hinder you from prosslyting (sp) in the future. These are some of the reasons of my withdrawing from your Church as a member thereof, together with the bad effects that it appears to me to have on many in your connection—to wit: so many prayerless families, so much neglect of keeping, the Sabbath, also large drams and a great many of them, family broils, aid sometimes a Ewe Lamb chased too far from the fold on forbidden ground. And now Brethren, I have endeavored to give you some of the reasons of my withdrawing from you.

I don't mean to charge all your members with the above—let them who are clear cast the first stone and make a distinction between them that pay a regard to the precepts of the Gospel and them who do not. I am far from saying there is no disorderly members in other Churches, yet I think you can boast of the greatest numbers, which appears to me to lay at the door of your, narrow doctrines and loose discipline. If what I have related gives you satisfaction, well. I can assure you that I seem well pleased with my change, in testimony of which without any reluctance, I cheerfully bid you, Adieu.

December 1811

Signed \_\_\_\_\_



# KOONCE FINDS WIMP'S FURY REALLY LOVE

By Pete Perkins  
Democrat-Gazette Staff Writer

Charles Koonce says Coach Wimp Sanderson's huff-and-puff style was about what he expected.

The junior college transfer, billed last spring as a replacement for departed small forward Joe Stephens, had had firsthand exposure to Sanderson.

His older sister, Carla Koonce, played for Alabama's women's team during the last of Sanderson's 12 season as the Crimson Tide's men's coach.

Koonce said his sister questioned him when he mentioned, as a sophomore at UAB-Walker Community College, that he might sign with UALR (U of AK; Little Rock).

"She said, 'Are you sure you want to play for him? You know how he acts,'" Koonce said. "I knew because I remembered coming up a couple of times while she was playing ball and watching him coach. I talked to a couple of his players, so I knew how he was."

Sanderson's ferocity is as common at Trojans practices as it is at games.

Koonce says it's based on a spirit that makes it, for him, acceptable, even welcomed.

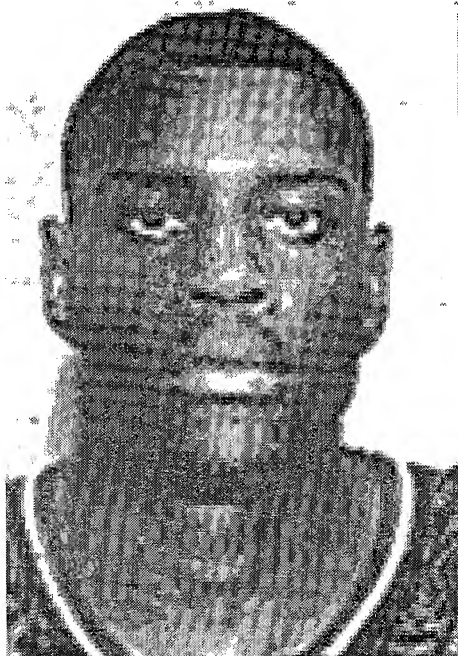
"The way he is doesn't bother me, his hollering and fussing," Koonce said. "It may bother some people, but not me. He just wants you to be good. He'll tell you that in a minute, that the only reason he's fussing at you is that he loves you and wants you to do right. With him, if he wasn't yelling at you, you might think he didn't care."

Sanderson said Koonce was correct. "That's the total picture," Sanderson said.

Koonce, who averaged 17 points and nine rebounds at UAB-Walker last season, said he got a regular dose of criticism from Sanderson in his first week of practice.

"I really wasn't putting out," Koonce said. "But since then, I've been going full force, or at least trying to."

"Coach Sanderson pushes us a lot harder than any other coach I've had.



Charles Koonce

Wimp wants us to go hard. He's been in this business a long time, so we know he knows what he's talking about. If you don't go hard, you don't get anything out of it."

"Charles is starting to catch on little bit more," Sanderson said. "But he still needs to improve effort-wise. I'm not sure that he came in well-conditioned."

"He has some good offensive skills, but he needs to work harder defensively. He has a good shot in that 15-foot range, or maybe even a little farther out. He just needs to push himself. He can be an asset to our program."

Sanderson said Koonce might have more power-forward characteristics than Stephens. Stephens was listed at 6-7, 210 pounds. Koonce, an inch shorter, said he weighs 214.

"Koonce should be able to step in and fill that void that Joe left," UALR forward Rodd Smith said. "He's probably a little more physical than Joe."

Joe was more of an athlete. But Charles should really come in and give us more help on the glass."

Koonce, who struggled academically as a freshman starter at Northwestern (La.) State in 1993-94 before he transferred to UAB-Walker, said academics have become his priority.

Part of his motivation is his 21-month old daughter, Brittany Simone, who lives with her mother in Dothan, Ala.

"I want to set a good example for my little girl," Koonce said. "I want her to see that daddy's going to school, that daddy got his grades and got his degree. I want her to look at that and do the same thing. I know I'm doing it for her, for me and because my grandparents want me to. That's all they talk about: 'Son, Get your education.'"

Still, Koonce knows his and UALR's performance on the court are what matters to most.

UALR's season opens Nov. 20th at Saint Louis University.

"We have nice team," Koonce said. "If we're all healthy, and we play like we know we can, we will win a lot of games, including the Saint Louis game. We'll win a lot."

"We're not nervous, because we know what kind of fire power we have. If everyone listens to what coach says, we're going to have a real good team."

## KOONCE'S GAME TROJANS PERK UP SIMULTANEOUSLY

by Jason Beck  
Special to the Democrat-Gazette  
Bowling Green, Kentucky. 1997

Wimp Sanderson speaks loud enough to transfix a room on his every word.

But Charles Koonce left the UALR (U of AR, Little Rock) coach muttering

(Continued on page 7)



## Charles Koonce, Continued

(Continued from page 6)

Sunday. The school's first victory at Western Kentucky didn't hurt, either.

"This was a huge win for our team," Sanderson said of the Trojans' 80-77 victory, the team's second road victory all season in Sun Belt Conference play. "No doubt about it."

Koonce scored a career-high 20 points in front of his mother, who made the three-hour trip from Lexington. The junior also set up senior standouts Malik Dixon and Muntrelle Dobbins for their late heroics that brought the Trojans back from an eight-point deficit.

Dobbins managed only five points in the first half and picked up only slightly afterward, but he scored four points and had a crucial rebound of a missed free throw in the last two minutes to, secure UALR's lead.

Two of those points, a layup Dobbins powered through to give UALR a 73-70 lead with 1:58 left came after Koonce dashed across the key to the opposite corner and grabbed James Price's missed free throw.

Dobbins later fumbled away a layup with less than five seconds left, but Brad Divine's potential game-tying three-pointer from half-court went off the top of the backboard.

Dobbins' previous struggles against the Hilltoppers provided the perfect opportunity for Koonce's near-perfect outing. As Western Kentucky double-teamed Dobbins, Koonce was hitting open jumpers everywhere, from the high post to the top of the key, including his first three-pointer of the season.

Koonce's 20 points fell four short of the 24 points the Trojans other than Dixon and Dobbins scored in last month's 71-62 loss to the Hilltoppers in Barton Coliseum.

"Those are the same shots that he missed at home," Western Kentucky Coach Matt Kilcullen said, "When you cover him, you leave Dobbins single-teamed, and we didn't want to let Dobbins beat us."

Dobbins still did. His fast-break layup behind Western Kentucky's defense put the Trojans up for good at the 9:33 mark. Koonce then made a fast-break

### CHARLES KOONCE AT A GLANCE

**Height and Position**  
6'6" Forward

**1996-1996**  
UAB-Walker  
19 points, 9 rebounds

**1994-1995**  
Did not play

**1993-1994**  
Northwestern (La.) State  
7.3 points, 6.3 rebounds

**1992-1993**  
Gadsen (Ala.) High  
22 points, 12 rebounds

layup and a jumper to stretch the lead.

Koonce's 13 points accounted for nearly half of UALR's first-half scoring. He didn't miss a shot until shooting an airball with 5:30 left.

"Charles Koonce shot the lights out," Sanderson said. "I hadn't started Charles Koonce because he couldn't cover the podium out there. When he hits shots, I guess I forget"

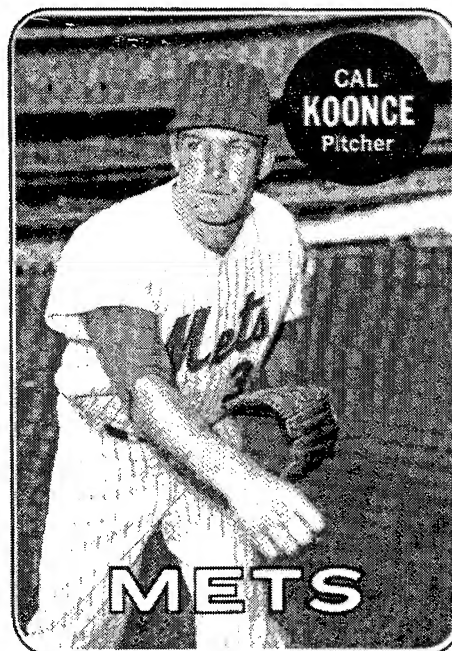
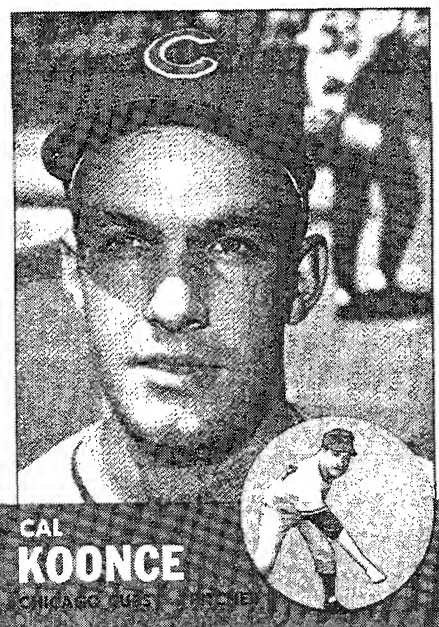
After Koonce heated up to keep the Trojans within striking distance, Malik Dixon struck. He scored 18 second-half points, including 11 in the first seven minutes of the period.

Dixon led all scorers with 27 points for the second consecutive game and made four three-pointers. Dobbins added 16 points and 10 rebounds. He also helped hold the Hilltoppers front court to 35 points, 21 of which came from senior All-Sun Belt forward Tony Lovan.

Dixon scored five consecutive points to key an 11-5 second-half run that put UALR in front for the first time since the opening minutes.

"I thought it was important over the first five minutes to come out and not get blown away," Sanderson said. "Sometimes when you're down against a good team like Western, you have a tendency to try to catch up too quickly."

## OTHER KOONCES IN SPORTS



Cal Koonce was born 18 November 1940 in North Carolina. He started pitching in 1961 for Wenatchee, N.W. League, and went on to pitch for The Cubs, Boston, Red Socks, Salt Lake City, Tacoma, and the New York Mets. Reggie Koonce played football for the University of Minnesota, at Duluth. George Koonce is a linebacker for the Green Bay Packers and is from New Bern, North Carolina. Does any one know if Charles and George are related? My neice, Beckie Koonce lives in Duluth and has made several attempts to contact Reggie, with no luck, so we don't know what line of Koonces he comes from.

## ??? QUERIES ???

Who were the parents of John Floyd Koonce who died in McAllen, TX after 1984 leaving one sister, Mrs. Lola Spence of Clyde, Ohio. See obit on page 9 of this publication.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Jim & Jeanie Koonce; 408 Wooddale Ave.; New Castle, DE 19720* are looking for information on Andrew Willis Koonce who died in Chandler, OK in 1920.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Sherry Skorkowsky; 112 West First; Tyler, Texas*, says there is a possibility that King David Koonces' father was Jessie. She would like to communicate with any Koonces in or around Maury Co. TN. Sherry also wants any record of Jesse Koonce in Maury Co. around 1800-1830.

\*\*\*\*\*

Any documented information of George & Susannah Koonce in Jones Co. NC 1790 and in Wilson Co. Tennessee in 1811. *James Hargraves; 7698 Lakeridhe Circle; Elk Grove, CA 95624-9650; (916) 682-9826.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Any information on Doyal & Shirley Koonce from Illinois. They would be about 60 years old now. *Send info. to Koonce Genealogical Society.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Who are the parents of Council Koonce b. abt 1865 probably in Jones Co. NC. His seven children were: (1) Lillia; (2) Willie; (3) Suddie; (4) John; (5) a girl; (6) Thomas, b. 18 Oct 1889, Jones Co. NC, m. Lillie May Heath; (7) Amos.

\*\*\*\*\*

John Koonce b. abt 1801-3 m. Mahala. Lived in Memphis in 1860. Later moved to Mt. Pleasant, TX. Had a daughter, Nancy b. 1839 m. Henry M. Hays. Who were his parents? Where was he born? What was Mahala's maiden name? *Query from Larry W. Smith, Celina, TN.*

## Books Wanted for the Koonce Genealogical Society Library

We are hoping to acquire the following books for the Koonce Genealogical Research Library. If you have any of these books and would like to donate them, or if you know the whereabouts of any of these books that we could buy, contact John P. Koonce at 1821 37th St., Somerset, WI 54025. 715-247-5297. Or e-mail at kooncjp@gw.astrotribune.com. If you know of any other books you think we should have let me know and I will add them to this list.

Bridge Family History

Battle Family Book

Any State, County or City History Books that contain Koonces.

John Lawson, History of North Carolina.

Bernheim, G. D. History of the German Settlements and of the Lutheran Church in North and South Carolina, from the Earliest Period of the Colonization of the Dutch, German, and Swiss Settlers to the Close of the First Half of the Present Century. Philadelphia, 1872; Reprint. Baltimore, MD: Regional Publishing Co., 1975.

Cobb, Sanford H. The Story of the Palatines: An Episode in Colonial History. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1897.

Faust, Albert Bernhardt and Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh. Lists of Swiss Emigrants in the Eighteenth Century to the American Colonies. 2 vols. in 1. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1972. Volume 2, pages 6-14, gives an account, using contemporaneous sources, of about 151 persons believed to have left Switzerland for North Carolina.

Haun, Weynette Parks. Craven Precinct-County Court Minutes. 6 vols. to date. Durham, NC: Haun, 1978-. Volumes I and 2 contain Court Minutes from 1712 to 1741, with the years 1716-1729 missing. These early volumes were consulted for names and are cited as Craven County Court records or minutes above.

"The High German Chapel." Carolina and the Southern Cross (May 1914):8. Contains the 1740 petition for the building of a church for

the use of the High Germans and the Church of England. Cited above as 1740 petition.

Holloman, Charles R. "Craven County, North Carolina - It's Origin and Beginning." Seminar notes prepared for Local History Students, Craven Technical Institute, 1973. Holloman contains transcriptions of the 1714 claims list, 1714 tithables list, 1715 land tax list, and 1716 land tax list.

Knittle, Walter Allen. Early Eighteenth Century Palatine Emigration: A British Government Redemptioner Project to Manufacture Naval Stores. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1970.

"The Palatines and their Descendants." Carolina and the Southern Cross (March 1914):15-19.

Saunders, William L., ed. The Colonial Records of North Carolina. 10 Vols. Raleigh, NC: State of North Carolina, 1886-90. Volume 4, pages 954-956, contains the 1747 petition of the Palatines to King George II, and gives a brief history of their settlement. Cited above as 1747 petition.

Schelbert, Leo, ed. America Experienced.-Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Accounts of Swiss Immigrants to the United States. Camden, ME: Picton Press, 1996. Includes some of the same letters in Todd's volume, as well as accounts of Swiss immigrants to other states.

Todd, Vincent H., ed. Christoph von Graffenried's Account of the Founding of New Bern: Edited with an Historical Introduction and an English Translation. Spartanburg, SC: The Reprint Company, 1973. Includes letters written around 1711 by Swiss from New Bern to their relatives.

Watson, Alan D. A History of New Bern and Craven County. New Bern, North Carolina: Tryon Palace Commission, 1987. The standard history of New Bern and Craven County, includes a detailed chapter on the settlement of New Bern., North Carolina.

# Obituaries

## MAE DELL (HICKS) KOONCE

(State of Virginia Koonce line. Received from Ken and Mary Eib June 1997)

Mae Dell Koonce Hicks, Passed away on the 23rd of April 1997 in her home at Lake Jackson, Texas.

Mae Dell was born 13 January 1925 in Berryton, Georgia. She was the daughter of the late Daniel Whitmore Koonce and Ollie (Floyd) Koonce.

Survived by her daughter Barbara Elaine (Henderson) Nevarez of Lake Jackson, Texas.

Mae Dell was a sister of Bishop B. Koonce (see obit below).

## BISHOP BLACKMAN KOONCE

(State of Virginia Koonce line. Received from Ken and Mary Eib June 1997)

Bishop B. Koonce, 87, Rt. 5, Summerville, Georgia passed away Friday morning in a local nursing home.

Mr. Koonce was born on September 6, 1909, a son of the late Daniel Whitmore and Ollie (nee Floyd) Koonce. He was a veteran of World War II in the U. S. Navy. He worked as a carpenter and was a member of the Berryton Church of God.

A sister, May Dell Henderson/Hicks, died earlier (see obit this issue).

Surviving are 2 daughters, Catherine Morris, Summerville, and Shirley Baker, Marietta; 2 sons, Bobby Koonce, Loganville, and Charles Koonce, Marietta; 2 sisters, Bessie Wooten and Mattie Walters; 1 brother, David Koonce, all of Summerville; 12 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held at 1:30 p.m. Sunday from the Chapel of J. D. Hill Funeral Home with Rev. Gleason Maxwell officiating. Interment was in Berryton Cemetery. Active pallbearers: Michael Morris, Billy Morris, Reggy Baker, Ronnie Baker, Brian Koonce and Lloyd Knowles. Honorary pallbearers: Alfred Searles, Max Brown, and men of Berryton Church of God.



Bishop Blackman Koonce (1909-1997) with his 1st cousin, Mary (nee Koonce) Eib. This picture taken in 1989 while Ken & Mary Eib were on a genealogical search in Georgia.

## WILLIAM W. KOONCE

(State of Virginia Koonce line. From Buck Claxton book, "DESCENDANTS OF JOHN KOONCE," PAGE 4.)

Mr. William Koonce, age 74 years, 1 month and 26 days. He died at his daughters, Mrs. Belle Morton near Wartrace, June 23, 1902. Mr. Koonce was a soldier during the War in which he lost his health and has been very feeble since. He was highly respected old gentleman and like ed by all who knew him. The funeral services were held at the Mt. Olivet church Tuesday by Rev. John Holland. Burial in the Arnold Cemetery, Bedford Co. TN.

Note from Claxton book: William was a private in the Federal Army, 5th Regiment of the Tennessee Cavalry, Co. F. They lived in the 23rd district of Bedford Co., near Wartrace.

## WAYMON LEROY KOONCE

Waymon L. (Pinky) Koonce died 29 March 1993 in a nursing home in Refugio, TX, after a long illness.

Funeral services and burial were held in Texas.

Mr. Koonce was a descendant of a brother of Philip Koonce, Revolutionary War veteran.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Alice Adelia (nee Springfield) Koonce of Refugio, TX; Children, May Evelyn; Waymon Leroy, Jr.; Lawernce Andrew; and John Richard. Nine grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

Pinky & Alice spent many years traveling this country in search of the Koonce genealogy and the research they have done is the backbone of all Koonce information.

## MARY E. KOONCE

(Copied from the BCGS Obituaries and Register of Deaths in the Greenville IL Advocate 1858-1899 Page 71-2)

Mary E. Koonce, wife of John S. Koonce, died at the home place, eight miles north of Sedan, Kansas, April 20, 1888, aged in her 64th year. She was born near Bellefontaine, Logan County, Ohio where she lived until she married, when she and her husband moved to Illinois settling near Dudleyville, Bond County. Twenty years ago the family moved to Kansas. She left an aged husband, five sons and one daughter, Mrs. Otis Whitham, who has since died.

## NEEDHAM B KOONCE

Mr. Needham B., Koonce, aged 68 years. Died in great peace, of consumption, Feb. 6th, at his residence on Stewart's Creek Fayetteville, co. TN

Born in Wilson county Tenn., July 11th, 1806. Moved to this county soon after and united in marriage with Burdotta Koonce, January 1st, 1832. Becoming somewhat divided in his religious sentiments, but always maintained the character of an honest, industrious man and citizen, consistent Christian, and died as such lamented by all who knew him... (Poem)

# Obituaries

## MARY JOSEPHINE(KOONCE) SPICER

(North Carolina line of Koonces)



Mary Josephine (Koonce) and William E. "Bill" Spicer.

Mary Josephine (nee Koonce) Spicer entered into eternal rest December 4, 1971. Funeral services

were held at 10:00 am Monday in Agent Funeral Chapel with Reverend D. H. Corwin officiating.

Burial will be in Akins Cemetery near Muscogy, Oklahoma.

Survived by her husband, William E. Spicer, of the home; and a daughter, Leone Wheeler, California; also two brothers, Robert Adrian. New Brighton, Minnesota and Norman Ambrose Koonce, St. Louis, MO, and a sister, Lucy Isabelle Mayer, of St. Paul, Minnesota. Many grandchildren.

Mary Josephine was the youngest daughter and third child of James Monroe (1879-1962) and Agatha Emma (nee Ayde) Koonce (1877-1930). James Monroe was born in Mulberry Grove, Illinois.

She first married James Lyttle, divorced. Second to Chet Issacson, divorced. Third to William "Bill" Spicer. "Jo" & Bill lived in Kenniwick, WA, Brainerd, MN & Sallisaw, OK.

## JAMES MONROE KOONCE

(North Carolina line of Koonces)



James Monroe Koonce 1879-1962  
Picture taken about 1960

James M. Koonce, 83, of Mulberry Grove, IL, died at an Alton hospital at 8 p.m., Friday, May 4, 1962 where he had been a patient since March 7th. Death was due to a heart attack.

January 16th he suffered a fractured hip in a fall.

Services were conducted at 2 p.m., Monday at the Ripperdan Funeral Home in Mulberry Grove, the Rev. Alva Stoneburner, of the Methodist church, officiating. Burial at McInturff cemetery.

Son of the late Elija Jefferson and Cordelia (nee Renfrow) Koonce. Born near Mulberry Grove April 1, 1879, being aged 83 years. In 1900 he went to St. Paul, MN, where he lived for 60 years, returning to Mulberry Grove about a year and a half ago, making his home with a niece, Mrs. Hazel (nee Smith) Elmore. He was married in St. Paul, MN to Agatha Emma Ayde, who passed away in 1930.

Surviving are three sons, Robert Adrian, New Brighton, MN; Gerald Anthony, St. Paul, MN and Norman Ambrose, St. Louis, MO. Daughters, Isabell Mayer of St. Paul, MN and Mary Josephine Spicer, Sallisaw, OK.

## WOODROW WILSON KOONCE

(North Carolina line of Koonces)



Nina and Woodrow Wilson "Woody" Koonce  
Picture taken about 1990

Woodrow Wilson "Woody" Koonce, Born November 17, 1912 in Mulberry Grove, Illinois. Died Saturday June 21, 1997. Aged 84 years, 7 months and 4 days. He was the third of six children of Theodore Freelinghouse and Hannah (nee Wehrle) Koonce.

Woody is survived by two sisters; Eveyln Marie Walker, of Pocahontas, Illinois. and Geraldine Estelle Nickel; a brother, Robert DeWitt Koonce. 8 children; Norma Jean; Gladys Lavon; Joyce Marie; Betty Lou; Richard Lee, Sr.; Sammi Eugene; Patty Kay; Debbie Sue. Many Grandchildren, nieces and nephew and friends.

## R.T. "THEO" KOONCE

R.T. "Theo" Koonce, 85, died Monday, April 17, 1995, at a Fort Worth hospital. Burial was in Mount Olivet Cemetery. B. in Mansfield, TX

His first wife, Mary Koonce, died in June 1973.

Survivors: Wife, Patricia Koonce of Fort Worth; son, R.T. Koonce Jr. of North Richland Hills, and three daughters



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## NANCY KOONCE HONORED BY HAZELDEN

Hazelden is a treatment center for drug, alcohol and other addictions.

Nancy has been a very faithful volunteer for Hazelden's Second-Sunday program for thirteen years. She was coordinator for five of those years.

On the second Sunday of each month, the program is an all day spiritual retreat for anyone working a 12-step program. The average monthly attendance is 125. The morning starts out with registration, a continental breakfast, a get acquainted session,

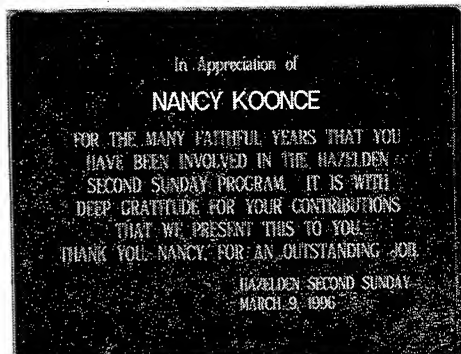
speaker, small group therapy, lunch, small group, and ends with a therapeutic meditation and relaxation session.

Nancy was responsible for arranging the speakers, setting up group meeting rooms, getting the information packets ready, making arrangements with the dietary for lunch, solving the problems that arise during the day, training the facilitators for all the groups.

Nancy never failed to make it all work. When a very popular speaker was scheduled there were over 300 people attending.

Groups were held inside and outside, wherever there was room.

Since passing the responsibility on to others, Nancy still volunteers monthly at Hazelden, and is dedicated to helping other alcoholics, and their families.



IN APPRECIATION OF  
**NANCY KOONCE**  
FOR THE MANY FAITHFUL YEARS THAT YOU  
HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE HAZELDEN  
SECOND SUNDAY PROGRAM. IT IS WITH  
DEEP GRATITUDE FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS  
THAT WE PRESENT THIS TO YOU.  
THANK YOU, NANCY, FOR AN OUTSTANDING JOB.

HAZELDEN SECOND SUNDAY  
MARCH 9, 1996

# KOONCE to KOONCE

October 1997

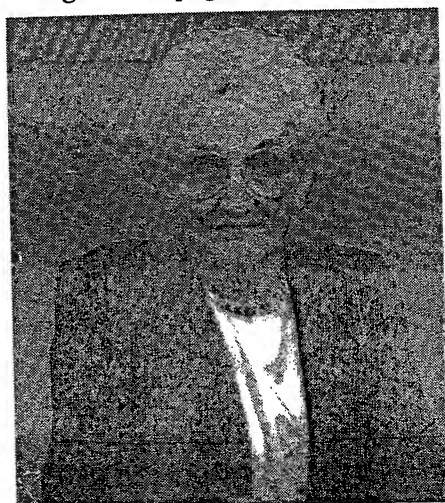
Official Publication of the Koonce Genealogical Society

Volume 4 Issue 4

## LEMUEL KOONCE FAMILY

by Alice Koonce - 1980

(Ed. note: See related story by James E. Hargraves on page 3)



Alice Koonce

LEMUEL KOONCE, son of \_\_\_\_\_, born ca 1779, in Jones or Craven County, North Carolina. The first record that I have of Lemuel Koonce is as a Witness to a deed in Jones County North Carolina. in 1794. On 10 May 1796 Lemuel Koonce married Else (Alcey) Jarman in Washington County, Virginia. The next record is Lemuel with several other Koonce's signing a petition 25 July 1799 making the part of Sumner County, Tennessee south of the Cumberland River into a new Wilson County, Tennessee. The Koonce's signing the petition were, Phillip Koonce, Robert Coonce, Lemuel Coonce and Jesse Koonce.

Lemuel Koonce paid taxes in Capt. Blalock's Dist., Wilson Co., TN, in 1803 and 1804. He was paying taxes in Capt. Fonvill's district in 1805 1806 & 1807.

19 March 1810 Lemuel Koonce was granted, from Governor Willie Blount, State of Tennessee, 110 acres of land lying

on the head of Flint River in Lincoln County. Also a tract of forty-five acres lying in Bedford County in the second district, on a branch of the west fork of Flint river. He sold this land in 1810.

In March 1813 in Jones County, North Carolina Rachel Jarman made her will which read in part: "To my grandson Jarman Winsett, and other heirs of my son Robert Jarman, deceased namely: Shadrack Jarman, ALSEY KOONCE, Rachel Burton, Robert Jarman, Philpenea Jarman, John Jarman, seven negroes and \$100.00 to take negroes to Tennessee or wherever their residency may be." Rachel's will was registered in the February Term 1815. In August 1816 Shadrack Jarman of Wilson County, Tennessee sold to Emanuel Jarman of Jones Co., NC seven negroes for \$2300.00 and Shadrack was acting for self and as attorney for Lemuel Koonce, Robert Jarman, John Jarman. I do not know whether Lemuel Koonce was still living In Wilson County or not.

When the census was taken in 1820 we found Lemuel Koonce in Franklin County, Alabama. as follows:

Amos Koonce -- 1 Male Under 21 years

-- 1 Female under 21 years

Leml, G. Koonce -- 1 male over 21 years

Lemal Koonce -- 1 Male over 21 -- 3 males under 21 -- 1 Female over 21 -- 6 Females under 21.

By 1824 Lemuel Koonce and family were back in Tennessee and Lemuel purchased land In Fayette Co.. The first county court of Fayette Co. convened at the house of Robert G. Thornton on Monday 6 Dec. 1824, Jarman Koonce was chosen and sworn in as Register. He

was also elected as Clerk of the Court in 1836 to 1856. His son William A. Koonce was elected sheriff in 1886.

Lemuel and his son Amos purchased land in Shelby County, Tennessee, later selling this land and purchasing land in Marshal County, Mississippi. I have no record of Lemuel's death, however, I believe that he must have died around 1840 in Marshall County, Miss.

The Shelby County Court Minute Book 5. Oct. 1843 reads, "A jury of view was appointed to lay out a road beginning at Kounces lane near Kounces School House in the 10th Dist. of Shelby Co., and running to the state line road at or near the fork of the Holly Springs road with the state line road .....

August 1844. "A. Koonce was appointed to serve on a jury of view to consider the propriety of opening a public road commencing on the line at a point where the citizens of Miss. contemplate opening a road to Mt. Pleasant, Holly Springs and then on a direction to the state line road..." A. Koonce was appointed to help cut out the road.

1840 Shelby County Census shows Amos Koonce with 1 male under five; 1 male 5-10 and 1 male 30-40; 1 female 10-15 and 1 female 40-50.

Sometime after 1840 Amos Koonce moved from Shelby County, Tennessee to Arkansas. 16 September 1850 he was living in Spring Creek Township, Phillips County, Arkansas. According to the census record:

Amos Koonce, fifty-one years old, born ca 1799 in Tennessee, he was listed as being a farmer. He had married Ann \_\_\_\_\_, She was

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## EDITORS CORNER

by John Paul Koonce



THANKYOU!!!

Thank you for a wonderful four years. Unfortunatly this issue of KOONCE to KOONCE will be the last I publish. There are many reasons for this. The main reason is I need more time to do my own research. Also the printing cost are about to rise dramatically and membership has stalalized at 116 with 9 of those going to Societies and libraries at no charge.. There have been many suggestions from members as to how to increase the membership but none of them have panned out. One of these was to donate a subscription to Genealogical Societies and Libraries in hoping that some interested person would see it and contact us. This did not happen. On the internet I found 30 addresses for Koonces in Georgia. I sent them all a letter and followed up with a copy of the newsletter. Not one response.

If any one wants to continue publishing this newsletter I will be very happy to help in any way I can.

At this time I plan to start a home page on the internet. Without much information as to how this works I will start exploring it soon.

For those of you that don't have access to the internet, please keep your letters and correspondence coming in as

(Continued on page 5)

### Koonce Genealogical Society Newsletter KOONCE to KOONCE

was published quarterly from January 1994 to October 1997. No attempt has been or will be made to verify the authenticity of any articles that are printed in this publication. It is intended to share information only. Send all inquiries to KOONCE to KOONCE, 1821 37th St. Somerset, WI 54025.

We hope to continue this effort on the internet. Watch for out home page

Back issues \$ 5.00 Each

Mail Check or Money Order to: KGS 1821 37th St. Somerset, WI 54025-7217

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John Paul Koonce, Somerset, WI, *Editor*

# BOB KOONCE HAS BACK SURGERY

It all started in April of 1997 shortly after the ice fishing became too risky to venture forth onto the ice. (Ed. note: Bob is an avid ice fisherman. see article in K to K July 1995, Page 2) I began to feel some pail in my lower back and down my right leg. I didn't think too much of it at the time, but after about a month it didn't go away, I went to my doctor, and he took some x-rays which only showed what it wasn't. As all good doctors do, he wrote a prescription and said to come back in a couple of weeks if it didn't get any better. It didn't, so I went back and he recommended a specialist. I went to this guy and he set an MRI thing for me. All this screwing around didn't seem to hurt these doctors much, but my pain was getting worse. After another week or so I had the MRI at the local hospital.

It was another two weeks of pain before I could get in to see this specialist for a reading of the MRI. He said he couldn't see anything on it to warrant surgery. I then told him that something was causing the pain. He then said he would look at it again with another doctor. My pain continued. Three more weeks passed before I could get in to see him again. This time he came up with the problem. There was a buildup of scar tissue from some surgery three years prior. I think this doctor must work at three week cycles, because he set up surgery three weeks down the road. One day before surgery I went back to my doctor for a pre-surgery physical only to be told I couldn't have it at this time because of a prescription I had been taking. So as my pain got worse the surgery was postponed for another three weeks, to August 13, 1997. I finally had my day. Everything

went according to plan, I only had a little pain where the surgeon did the cutting and when the nurse had to give me a shot. You can guess where that went. I convinced one of the nurses to have her picture taken with me, She didn't want to but I told her she had to. Her name is Kelly, same name as one of my grand daughters, She also was so kind as to take one of my wife, Harriet and me.

All in all my stay in the hospital was made very comfortable by all the nurses, they each took their turn with the hypo though.

The next day I was released, and was quiet surprised, as was my wife, that I was pretty mobile on my own. I went to our annual "Greater Koonce Golf Classic" picnic, but was unable to compete in the golf tournament, which was won by my little brother Jim, with a nice 9 hole score of 39. I told him that later

I would challenge him and two other brothers, Lee and Don, to a real match of 18 holes on a par 72 golf course. This came to pass on Saturday, September 13, 1997 at Port Mille Lacs Golf Course, in northern Minnesota, one month after my surgery. I won that one with a 96. My first round of golf was played a week and half after surgery, but the score wasn't too good. All in all I feel pretty good now and am finally able to do my chores and enjoy retirement in comfort.

My garden produced a 2½ lb. tomato last week along with several 1¼ pounders, which I am pretty proud of.

My basement contains 35 gallons of homemade wine. 20 gallons of wild grape, 10 gallons of concord grape, and 5 gallons of plum wine. Anybody ever gets up to the St. Paul, Minnesota area, please feel free to stop in for some tasting. My number is 612-777-2985. Bob Koonce



# Lemuel Koonce of North Carolina

By James E. Hargraves.

25 January 1997

Dear John P. Koonce,

Thank you for your letter of 3 January 1997 and the Koonce records that you sent. I want you to know how much we appreciate the newsletter, it is excellent. I'm glad that we can look forward to two additional years. Thank you for all your efforts and help.

I am enclosing an article for the newsletter if you want to print it. I know that my conclusions do not agree with other researchers but Alice Koonce does agree insofar as Lemuel Koonce is Concerned.

Most of my research had been to establish the identity of the daughters of Lemuel Koonce, which has never been attempted and also to find the parents of Lemuel Koonce, which I believe has only been guessed at or at least not seriously attempted.

I hope that the article will bring out additional information to help prove my conclusions, which are paper thin at this time, but, if I am wrong, I would like to know that too.

I agree with your statement that George Koonce, Jr. did not marry Susannah.

I don't have any documentation of the George, III and marriage, only the indications that I mention in the article. The fact that they appear in Jones County, NC as well as Wilson Co. TN, seems most important to me. However, they do not seem to have moved with the original group that included Lemuel. Obviously there is much more research to be done. I guess my next project will be to verify the sons of Lemuel, two of which seem to be in doubt at this time as new information has surfaced.

Yours very truly, James E. Hargrave

## Lemuel Koonce

Lemuel was born in Jones County, North Carolina between the years of 1774 and 1780. He was part of a large group of Koonce relatives and friends who left North Carolina between 1790 and 1796 and migrated to Tennessee.

On the way to Tennessee, Lemuel married Else Jarman on 10 May 1796 in Washington County, Virginia. This group of pioneers settled in that part of Sumner County that later became Wilson County Tennessee. This large wagon train consisted of the following family groups; Koonce, Jarman, Gibson, Winset, Fonvielle and Small, nearly all related to each other. Lemuel, in later years migrated to Lincoln County, Tennessee; Franklin County Alabama; Fayette County, Tennessee; Shelby County, Tennessee; and lastly to Marshall County, Mississippi, where he died during the years 1840 to 1850.

Lemuels' children were; Lemuel Gibson, Amos, Penelope Mary, Jarman, Robert, King David, Susannah, Elizabeth,

Rachel, Emalene, Martha and Aretus (male). There may be another daughter not yet identified. There is no will, Bible record or other document that proves the parentage of Lemuel.

The third generation of Koonce males in North Carolina consisted of John, Jacob, Michael, George Jr., Tobias, Christian and Daniel. All left wills except George Jr. The information from these will's and other data identifies the children of all but George Jr., to most researcher's satisfaction. The children of George Jr., have been researched by many and the various results are controversial.

It is my belief that none of the third generation males were the father of Lemuel. It is only through the method of elimination and common sense that Lemuels' father can be identified.

In the 1786 state Census of North Carolina, George Koonce Jr., has 3 sons living at home as follows; George III, Philip and Christopher. He has another

son John who has moved out and established his own plantation. These are the only sons of George Jr., as of 1786. In the 1790 U.S. Census of North Carolina, Philip, George III and Christopher have moved out and established their own homes and families. The 1790 Census also shows that George Jr., has an additional 3 sons. These sons were obviously born between 1786 and 1790 and none are therefore more than 4 years old and likely are the creation of a second wife of George Jr.

It is obvious that none of the second group of sons could be Lemuel, because they are too young, and I must conclude that none of the third generation males could be the father of Lemuel. If not, then which males could be the father of Lemuel? To qualify they must have sons born before the 1786 state Census of North Carolina. Accordingly, there are only two listed on the state Census known to be 4th generation and have sons. They are John Jr., and George, the sons of John Koonce Sr. 1727-1791. The sons of John Jr., are known by most researchers and Lemuel is not included in that group, so by the elimination of all other possible 3d and 4th generation males, that leaves only George as the father of Lemuel. According to the 1790 U.S. Census, George had 5 sons, of which I can only identify Lemuel and John. It is possible that all five were in Wilson County, Tennessee during the period of 1803 to 1807 and may include Nicholas, Daniel and another Christopher.

I believe that George also settled in Tennessee and that his wife was Susannah. On 20 December 1790, George and Susannah Koonce witnessed the will of Christian Koonce in Jones County, North Carolina. In 1811, George and Susannah Koonce were members of the Mount Olivet Baptist Church in Wilson County, Tennessee. My Great, Great, Grandmother was Susannah Koonce, whom I believe was named after her Grandmother. George and Susannah disappear from history after 1811. Lemuel Koonce was my Great, Great, Great, Grandfather.



# LEMUEL KOONCE, BY ALICE KOONCE

(Continued from page 1)

born 1800 in Tennessee. They had living with them Robert P. Koonce, born 1830 and he was listed as attending school, also Matilda Koonce born 1838 in Tennessee, she was also attending school. Living with them were three Manly children, Robert born 1840, Elizabeth born 1842 and Charles born 1849 in Arkansas. Did their daughter who was between the age of 10-15 years on the 1840 census marry and were these her children, if so what happened to the mother and father?

5 April 1860 Amos Koonce is living in Prairie County, Arkansas, his wife Ann is still alive but listed as being born in Georgia, Matilda C. Koonce is still living with them but is only listed as being 18 years old, the child on the 1850 census named Charles Manly, aged 1 year, is listed as a Koonce. Living next door to Amos and Ann is K. J. Koonce age 21 years old born in Tennessee, Martha Koonce born in Tennessee and is 30 years old, and Emily Koonce aged 11 years and born in Arkansas, Who are they?

Lemuel G. (ibson) Koonce was born in Tennessee in 1798, and I believe that he was the son of Lemuel and Alcey (Jarman) Koonce. Lemuel G. Koonce married Druina Odom, daughter of James and Mary Odom, 20 January 1826 in Wilson County, Tennessee. After Lemuel and Alcey Koonce moved with their family from Alabama into Fayette County, Tennessee about 1824, Lemuel G. Koonce decided to go back to Wilson County and there he married and lived for awhile, finally moving to Henderson County, Tennessee. The 1850 census listed the following children:

1. Jesse Koonce born in Tn in 1829.
2. Martha Koonce born 1830.
3. Charity Koonce born in 1831 and she married Abner J. Webb. He was born 28 Sept 1833 in Tenn., and died 15 Feb. 1892, Ellis Co., TX. They married ca 1853, had three children; William Edmond Webb James Abner Webb and John L. Webb. Charity died ca 1858-9.
4. James Franklin Koonce born 14

February 1833, died 1 February 1915. He married Mary Jane Baxter who was born 25 Nov. 1835 and died 18 November 1911 in Memphis Tennessee. James F. and Mary Jane married 7 December 1858 and had the following children:

- (1) James Fountain Koonce born 14 October 1859, died 8 July 1909. He married Cora Jane Hall 15 December 1886.
- (2) William Andrew Koonce born 9 June 1862, died 29 September 1952, married Mittie Ann Rice.
- (3) Charles Smith Koonce born 1 August 1869, died 9 November 1949, married Sarah Allie Pinson.
- (4) Daniel Gipson Koonce born 20 September 1871, died 4 December 1930 married Lethe Hemingway.
- (5) Ada Lou Koonce born ca 1885, and died in infancy.
- (6) Sallie Frances Koonce born 20 August 1866, died 6 Sept. 1902, she did not marry.

5. Andrew J. Koonce born ca 1838.
6. Rebecca Koonce born 1840.
7. S. Dobson Koonce born 1841.
8. Robert Koonce born 1844.
9. Malica C. Koonce born 1847.

Lemuel and Druina were living in Henderson County, town of Middleford in 11 July 1860 but until recently I did not know where they were living after that but I need to do some checking to verify that they had moved to Somerville, Fayette County, Tennessee, where I have been told that all of the children of James Franklin Koonce were born. Maybe only James F. Koonce moved there.

Jarman Koonce, the son of Lemuel and Alcey (Jarman) Koonce, was born ca 1801 in Tennessee. He married ca 1830 to Mary Matilda Crook, daughter of Wylie and Chloe (Daniel) Crook. She was born 1811 and died 1876. Jarman Koonce was one of the first settlers of Somerville. And about 1836 he was elected County Court Clerk of Fayette County and served until 1858. He then moved with his family to St. Francis

County, Ark. where he died in 1867. Jarman served as Register in Fayette County from 1824 until 1836 when he was elected county clerk, Jarman and Mary (Crook) Koonce children:

1. Franklin J. Koonce born 1831, died 22 December 1851 age 30 years, 6 months. He is buried in Whitaker Family Cemetery about 3 miles east of Somerville
2. Julia P. Koonce born 1833 (I have a marriage record that lists Juliet P, Koonce marries James H. Thompson 11 December 1850).
3. Dorthula Koonce, born 1835. She married P. H. Ramsey 24 Nov, 1852.
4. Araminta A. Koonce born 1837.
5. Cloye Emma Koonce born 1839 and married George Black
6. William A. Koonce was born 12 May 1840 in Somerville, Fayette Co., Tenn., he married Laura R. Glasscock, daughter of Katherine (Gregory) Glasscock of Arkansas, 1 December 1860. William A. Koonce had moved to St. Francis County Arkansas and engaged in farming until the breaking out of the war. He then enlisted in the Third Confederate Cavalry under the command of Col. J. H. McGehee and in 1863 William was made quartermaster of the regiment and served as such until the surrender. After the war he went back to farming until 1868 when he came back to Tennessee and went into the mercantile business at Stanton, Haywood County staying there until 1879 when he moved back to Somerville. In 1886 he was elected sheriff of Fayette County. William A. and Laura R. (Glasscock) Koonce had one son born 1 December 1861 and died in January 1862. William A. was a Mason, a K of H. He and Laura were members of the Baptist Church. He is buried in Somerville Cemetery.
7. Samuel\* John Koonce born 1843 in Tennessee, he married Lutie Mebane. Known child: Mebane Koonce born ca 1865. \*Could his name have been Lemuel instead of Samuel? He was with his father in August 1860 in St

(Continued on page 5)



# LEMUEL KOONCE, BY ALICE KOONCE

(Continued from page 4)

Francis County, Arkansas.

8. Mary F. (Fannie) Koonce born 1845 married 1st Laughinghouse and 2nd John McNulty. She was with mother and father in 1860.
9. Martha (Mattie) born 1847. She married Will Slaughter they had a daughter Mattie Slaughter born ca 1868 who married Will Ford.
10. Alice Koonce born 1849 married Adler Ward. They had a daughter Mary Ward born ca 1870 who married Lippman.\*\*
11. Addie Koonce born ca 1854 in Tenn.. Married George P. Taylor.\*\*

*\*\*This was given to me by a descendant of the Crook family; however, I am sure that it is incorrect. I have not researched St. Francis County, AR except for the Koonces there. I will go back and recheck the census records for these girls of Jarman & Mary M. (Crook) Koonce.*

Miss Alice Koonce married George P. Taylor, son of John and Mary (Cockrell) Taylor, in February 1873 George was born in Cooper County Missouri October 13 1850. He moved to St. Francis County, Arkansas in 1870, where he engaged in farming. They had six children

- (1) Edgar P. Taylor born ca. 1876, married Annie Jessell.
- (2) Walter R. Taylor
- (3) Alva J. Taylor who married Patterson.
- (4) Alice N. Taylor
- (5) Nannie Taylor
- (6) George P. Taylor, Jr.

On the 1820 census record in Franklin Co., Alabama Lemuel and Alcey (Jarman) Koonce listed 3 Males under age 21 years one of them was Jarman Koonce who we have just discussed. I find listed in the INDEX TO ENTRY BOOK—FAYETTE COUNTY, TENNESSEE—1822-1835 the following Koonces: A.(Amos) Koonce, Lemuel Koonce, Robert Koonce, J. (Jarman) Koonce. I believe that the last son of Lemuel and Alcey Koonce was David Koonce according to the will of

Shadrack Jarman, recorded in Hardman Co., Tennessee 29 Feb. 1824. Shadrack Jarman was the brother of Alcey (Jarman) Koonce and the bequeath Nephew David Koonce. This was signed in presence of Amos Koonce and Lemuel Koonce.

David was listed on the 1850 Fayette County Census as K. D. Koonce born 1807. He married Eliza Kirk, daughter of Henry and Sarah Kirk, about 1834.

In Fayette County, Tenn. Wills, Vol. A (1836--1854). Page 137 is the will of Henry Kirk. It was written 15 July 1840 and probated January term 1845. In it he mentions wife, Sarah. Children Suny, Mary Graves, ELIZA KOONCE. \*Lazarus B., Henry, Adaline, Caroline Cathamore Kirk, John, Catherine Knox and Martha. The Executor: Lazarus B. Kirk.

*\*This is probably why David Koonce named a son Lazarus Battle Koonce.*

In 1860 David Koonce and Eliza, his wife, listed the following children:

1. Serena Koonce born ca 1835 (from census record-probably wrong).
2. William H.(enry) Koonce born 7 November 1837, married in 1869, to Edy Moriah McElroy who was born 1842 in West Point, Mississippi. They had four children
  - (1) Lula Koonce born 1871 in Howard County, Arkansas.
  - (2) Henry Koonce born 1873 in Howard County, Arkansas.
  - (3) Mary Koonce born 1875 in Howard County, Arkansas.
  - (4) George Leonard Koonce born 21 March 1878.
3. Sareah C. Koonce born 1839.
4. Martha A. Koonce born 1842.
5. Lazarus Battle Koonce born 10 April 1844 in Moscow, Tenn., died 5 Jan. 1916 in Arkansas. He married Zenobia Ann Harrison. daughter of Thomas and Rebecca Ann Harrison, 3 Dec. 1874. She was born 26 Oct., 1857 and died 27 February 1905.
6. Mary Addie Koonce born 1847.
7. Jesse L. Koonce born 1348.
8. Alice J. Koonce born 1354.

## ALFRED JOHN KOONCE

by Terry Leach

Alfred John Koonce was born 17 Nov. 1906 in Lowell, the son of Francis Samuel, born 12 April 1861 died 18 April 1938 & Matilda (nee Ceiga) born 26 August 1884 died 24 Nov. 1953) Koonce. Note Matilda was 23 years younger than Francis. Alfred was the fourth of eighteen, yes eighteen, children. Nine boys and nine girls.

Alfred never married. He worked for the Liberty Stables in Lowell Indiana. He also helped make cider commercially in Lowell. Terry Leach, the daughter-in-law of Alfred's sister, Laura Marie (nee Koonce) Leach remembers how he liked to make up funny stories and songs, although he was not the best singer.

He served in the United States Army from April 1942 to June 1945 in France during World War II

Alfred is the only male and oldest child of Francis & Matilda still living. Beside him, Pearl, Velma and Laura are still living.

(See obits page10)

## EDITORS CORNER

(Continued from page 2)

I am not giving up on Koonce research, just going down a different road.

I do want to thank all of the people that supported this endeavor for the past 4 years. It has been a sincere pleasurer.

An interesting note from Terry L. Leach is that her ancestor, John Wheeler Koonce, joined the Civil War while living in Bond Co. IL. My Great Great grandfather, John Henry Koonce, joined the Civil war while living in Bond Co. IL and George Koonce was active on behalf of the Union in Harpers Ferry, VA and moved to Bond Co. IL during the Civil War. We have not come up with one single shred of evidence to show these three families even knew each other and no connection with their families.

Nancy & I are vacationing this month in Bond Conty and will do a little more research on this subject. We also hope to get to visit Lindell & Katy Koonce in Murphsboro, IL, Harold & Alma Rogers in Jackson, TN, Marshall Koonce in Memphis and then spend some time researching cemeteries around Salem, MO.

# FRANCIS SAMUEL & MAGGIE KOONCE FAMILY

by Terry Leach

**FRANCIS SAMUEL KOONCE** son of Samuel & Mary (nee Madison) Koonce.

Born: 12 Apr 1861 in Sharon, Merder Co. PA. Married: Matilda (Maggie) Ceiga 12 January 1901 in Lowell, Lake Co. IN. Died: 18 April 1938

**Matilda (Maggie) Ceiga.** Born: 26 August 1884 in Lowell, Lake Co. IN.

Died: 26 November 1953 in Lowell, Lake Co. IN

**Children of Francis Samuel & Matilda (Maggie) Koonce:**

**FRANK VINCENT KOONCE** Born: 20 September 1900 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Married: Janie Elizabeth Blankenship on 22 June 1933

Died: 26 December 1943

**HARRY UGENE KOONCE** Born: 4 May 1903 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Married: Ceola B Templer

Died 3 May 1992

**CHARLES EDWARD KOONCE** Born: 18 December 1905

Married: Nellie Hall

**ALFRED JOHN KOONCE** Born: 17 November 1906 in Lowell, Lake County, IN (see story on page 5)

**HELEN MARY KOONCE** Born: 6 September 1909 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Married: Ted Lamphier on 3 June 1924

Died: 8 July 1936

**RUTH ELLEN KOONCE** Born: 15 March 1911 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Married: Clifford E. Jones on 5 January 1939

Died: 24 May 1990 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

**EDWARD WOODROW KOONCE** Born: 3 July 1912 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Married: Lula Mae Francis on 4 December 1932

Died: 8 September 1959

**IRENE LENA KOONCE** Born: 27 October 1914 in Lowell, Lake County, IN (see Obit Page 10)

Married: Gerald Templer on 25 August 1934

Died 11 February 1990 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

**JOHN WARREN KOONCE** Born: 7 November 1915 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Married: Betty on 28 September 1950

Died: April 1964

**ROBERT SAMUEL KOONCE** Born: 8 August 1917 in Lowell, Lake County, IN (see Obit Page 10)

Married: Hilda (Jackie) Hatly on 21 December 1943

Died: 25 January 1993

**DOROTHY MAE KOONCE** Born: 1 October 1918 in Lowell, Lake County, IN (see Obit Page 10)

Married: Don Kindly on 7 January 1937

Died 6 September 1997 in Crown Point, IN

**RUBY ELLEN KOONCE** Born: 3 August 1920 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Married: Warren Post on 2 February 1942

Died: 16 April 1988

**VELVA MAI KOONCE** Born: 3 May 1922 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Married: Mack Post on 2 August 1941

**MABLE JUNE KOONCE** Born: 19 June 1923 in Lowell, Lake County, IN (see Obit Page 10)

Married: Paul Cunningham on 27 July 1946

Died: 25 July 1997 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

**THOMAS GEORGE KOONCE** Born: 19 January 1925 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Died 15 July 1925

**PEARL ELLA KOONCE** Born: 9 January 1926 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Married: Evern Ellsworth on 16 August 1941

**LAURA MARIE KOONCE** Born: 28 June 1927 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Married: Clebern Leach on 21 February 1944

**HAROLD LEE KOONCE** Born: 23 March 1929 in Lowell, Lake County, IN

Married: Dorothy Struebig

Died: 8 January 1993

# GREATER KOONCE GOLF CLASSIC 1997

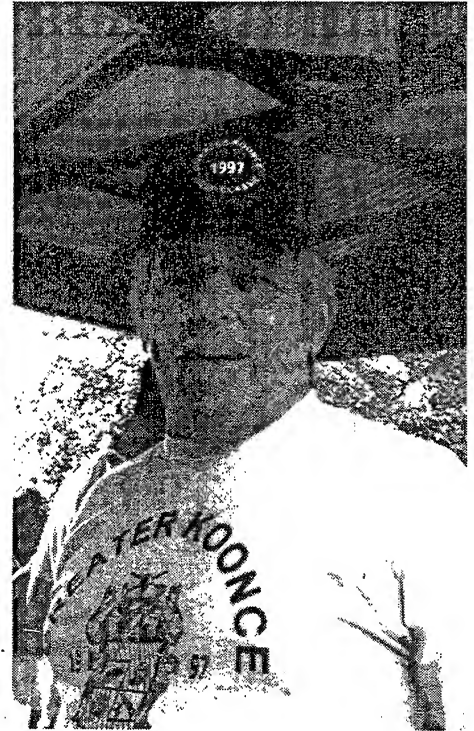
Somerset, WI and Bayport, MN



Craig Koonce with his wife, Pam, enjoyed the fun & food at the Koonce picnic following the golf tournament. He and his dad, John, teamed up against all comers for an afternoon of horseshoes. Craig is the son of John Paul Koonce. He has three boys, John Douglas, Chad Anthony, Tyler Lee and a step-son Bert. Craig is also a bow hunter during the Wisconsin Deer season.



Pat Koonce takes a smoke break on his golf cart while dealing with the pressures of the Golf classic. Pat is the son of Don & Patricia (Blum) Koonce.



Don Koonce should get a trophy for having the most children in the Greater Koonce Golf Classic. That may be because he has the most kids. (5)



Karin Koonce on the golf course. Karin deals with pressure better than her brother Pat. She is the daughter of Don & Patricia (Blum) Koonce.



Julie (Koonce) Semple. The only person in the tournament to get on the first green in one. Julie is Don's daughter.



Bob Koonce and his sister Carol (Koonce) Loehr. Carol holding the trophy she won in the Greater Koonce Golf Classic. Bob is only three days out of surgery. See related article on page 2.

## ??? QUERIES ???

Who were the parents of John Floyd Koonce who died in McAllen, TX after 1984 leaving one sister, Mrs. Lola Spence of Clyde, Ohio. See obit on page 9 of this publication.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Jim & Jeanie Koonce; 408 Wooddale Ave.; New Castle, DE 19720* are looking for information on Andrew Willis Koonce who died in Chandler, OK in 1920.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Sherry Skorkowsky; 112 West First; Tyler, Texas*, says there is a possibility that King David Koonces' father was Jessie. She would like to communicate with any Koonces in or around Maury Co. TN. Sherry also wants any record of Jesse Koonce in Maury Co. around 1800-1830.

\*\*\*\*\*

Any documented information of George & Susannah Koonce in Jones Co. NC 1790 and in Wilson Co. Tennessee in 1811. *James Hargraves; 7698 Lak-  
eridhe Circle; Elk Grove, CA 95624-  
9650; (916) 682-9826.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Any information on Doyal & Shirley Koonce from Illinois. They would be about 60 years old now. *Send info. to Koonce Genealogical Society.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Who are the parents of Council Koonce b. abt 1865 probably in Jones Co. NC. His seven children were: (1) Lillia; (2) Willie; (3) Suddie; (4) John; (5) a girl; (6) Thomas, b. 18 Oct 1889, Jones Co. NC, m. Lillie May Heath; (7) Amos.

\*\*\*\*\*

John Koonce b. abt 1801-3 m. Mahala. Lived in Memphis in 1860. Later moved to Mt. Pleasant, TX. Had a daughter, Nancy b. 1839 m. Henry M. Hays. Who were his parents? Where was he born? What was Mahala's maiden name?  
*Query from Larry W. Smith, Celina, TN.*

## Books Wanted for the Koonce Genealogical Society Library

We are hoping to acquire the following books for the Koonce Genealogical Research Library. If you have any of these books and would like to donate them, or if you know the whereabouts of any of these books that we could buy, contact John P. Koonce at 1821 37th St., Somerset, WI 54025. 715-247-5297. Or e-mail at [kooncjp@gw.astrotribune.com](mailto:kooncjp@gw.astrotribune.com). If you know of any other books you think we should have let me know and I will add them to this list.

Bridge Family History

Battle Family Book

Any State, County or City History Books that contain Koonces.

Bernheim, G. D. History of the German Settlements and of the Lutheran Church in North and South Carolina, from the Earliest Period of the Colonization of the Dutch, German, and Swiss Settlers to the Close of the First Half of the Present Century. Philadelphia, 1872: Reprint. Baltimore, MD: Regional Publishing Co., 1975.

Cobb, Sanford H. The Story of the Palatines: An Episode in Colonial History. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1897.

Faust, Albert Bernhardt and Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh. Lists of Swiss Emigrants in the Eighteenth Century to the American Colonies. 2 vols. in 1. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1972. Volume 2, pages 6-14, gives an account, using contemporaneous sources, of about 151 persons believed to have left Switzerland for North Carolina.

Haun, Weynette Parks. Craven Precinct-County Court Minutes. 6 vols. to date. Durham, NC: Haun, 1978-. Volumes I and 2 contain Court Minutes from 1712 to 1741, with the years 1716-1729 missing. These early volumes were consulted for names and are cited as Craven County Court records or minutes above.

"The High German Chapel." Carolina and the Southern Cross (May 1914):8. Contains the 1740 petition for the building of a church for the use of the High Germans and the Church of England. Cited above as 1740 petition.

Holloman, Charles R. "Craven County, North

Carolina - Its Origin and Beginning." Seminar notes prepared for Local History Students, Craven Technical Institute, 1973. Holloman contains transcriptions of the 1714 claims list, 1714 tithables list, 1715 land tax list, and 1716 land tax list.

Knittle, Walter Allen. Early Eighteenth Century Palatine Emigration: A British Government Redemptioner Project to Manufacture Naval Stores. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1970.

"The Palatines and their Descendants." Carolina and the Southern Cross (March 1914):15-19.

Saunders, William L., ed. The Colonial Records of North Carolina. 10 Vols. Raleigh, NC: State of North Carolina, 1886-90. Volume 4, pages 954-956, contains the 1747 petition of the Palatines to King George II, and gives a brief history of their settlement. Cited above as 1747 petition.

Schelbert, Leo, ed. America Experienced.-Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Accounts of Swiss Immigrants to the United States. Camden, ME: Picton Press, 1996. Includes some of the same letters in Todd's volume, as well as accounts of Swiss immigrants to other states.

Watson, Alan D. A History of New Bern and Craven County. New Bern, North Carolina: Tryon Palace Commission, 1987. The standard history of New Bern and Craven County, includes a detailed chapter on the settlement of New Bern., North Carolina.

## BOOK ORDERED

The newly published book, by the Onslow County North Carolina history museum, "ARCHITECTURE HISTORY OF ONSLOW COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA" has been ordered. If any of you would like a copy of your own send \$42.40 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling to:

JoAnn S. Becker  
1219 Castle Drive  
Jacksonville, NC 28546.

We don't know how many Koonce buildings are in the book but Dennis Jones gave me a tour several years ago and the Koonces had a lot of input in the architecture of the area. It should be a great book.



# Obituaries

## BENNIE N. KOONCE

*(Received from Hazel Smith, and Beautone McKean. Decatur, IL Harold Review; 23 Nov. 1994)*

Bennie N. Koonce, 62, of Chicago died at 6:15 A.M. Thursday, Nov. 10, 1994, at Edgewater Hospital in Chicago.

The body was cremated. Services will be held at 11 A.M. Friday, Nov. 25, at Maplewood Cemetery, St. Elmo, with Jack Stormont officiating.

Mr. Koonce was born Dec. 5, 1931, in St. Elmo, son of Ben and Maxine Eaton Koonce. He was a veteran of the Korean Conflict. He married Sondra Robinson in Alaska in 1953.

Surviving are his wife; son, Scott Koonce of Chicago; daughter, Robin Koonce of Chicago; brother, Jim and his wife Helen Koonce of St. Elmo; sister-in-law, Marcia Koonce of Tulsa, Okla.; aunt, Grace and her husband Fred Ragel of St. Elmo; nieces, Joni Springman and Kari Beasley; nephews, Denny Koonce, Barry Koonce and Daniel Koonce; and several cousins, great-nieces and great-nephews.

One brother, Berry Koonce, preceded him in death.

\*\*\*\*\*

## WILLIAM THURMAN KOONCE 1897-1964

*(From Buck Claxtons 1992 book, "Descendants of John Koonce" Page 51.)*

William Thurman Koonce went to Akron, Ohio when he was about 21 years old. He was employed by a tire and rubber company and they spelled his name Koontz and he never corrected it and spelled it that way the rest of his life. In late 1927 he left Akron and went to Phoenix, Arizona where he and Esther lived for many years. They moved to Clarkdale, Arizona and lived there until his death. He was in the service station business at Clarkdale until he retired because of his arthritis. His wife found him in a coma on the morning of April 12, 1964 and he died in the hospital that afternoon without coming out of the coma. Burial was at Clarkdale, Arizona.

## ATHALIA KOONCE

RICHLANDS, NC — Athalia Koonce, 80, died April 23, 1996 at Brithaven of Onslow in Jacksonville. A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Onslow Memorial Park with the Rev. William A. Boykin officiating.

She was the daughter of the late Hammond Koonce and Lucy Athalia Thompson Koonce. She was preceded in death by a brother, Burke Koonce.

Visitation was held at Johnson-Gaskins Funeral Home in Richlands.

Memorial contributions may be made to Richlands Methodist Church.

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## ESTHER LUCILE ORIN KOONCE 1898-1974

*(From Buck Claxtons 1992 book, "Descendants of John Koonce" Page 52.)*

Esther Lucile Koonce (nee Orin), wife of William Thurman Koonce, taught school for many years at Akron, Ohio. After moving to Phoenix, Arizona continued teaching for several more years. Her last employment was with the welfare department from which she retired a few years before her death. She was visiting her sister Lois in the hospital in Akron when she had a heart attack. She was admitted to the hospital and died there about 1:00 A.M. Friday, August 16, 1974. Burial was in Clarkdale, Arizona. They had no children.

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## WILLIAM KOONCE

*(from Buck Claxton book, "DESCENDANTS OF JOHN KOONCE," PAGE 4.)*

Mr. William Koonce, age 74 years, 1 month and 26 days. He died at his daughters, Mrs. Belle Morton near Wartrace, June 23, 1902. Mr. Koonce was a soldier during the War in which he lost his health and has been very feeble since. He was

highly respected old gentleman and like ed by all who knew him. The funeral services were held at the Mt. Olivet church Tuesday by Rev. John Holland. Burial in the Arnold Cemetery, Bedford Co. TN.

*(Note from Claxton book: William was a private in the Federal Army, 5th Regiment of the Tennessee Cavalry, Co. F. They lived in the 23rd district of Bedford Co., near Wartrace.)*

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## ETHEL OLDHAM TALLEY

Mrs. Ethel Oldham Talley, formerly of Lincoln County, died March 30 1981 in a Nashville hospital after a long illness. She was 85.

Funeral services were held April 1 at Eastland Funeral Home in Nashville, with Robert Kerce officiating. Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery, Nashville.

She was the widow of Andrew Jackson Talley and formerly lived in the Liberty community of Lincoln County. She was a member of the Church of Christ.

She is survived by four daughters: Mrs. Ruth Marlow and Mrs. Jewell Neal of Nashville, Mrs. Elaine Tintle of Wilmington, Del., and Mrs. Virginia Nichols of Shelbyville; and a son, Jack Talley of Bell Buckle, Tenn.

*(Note on back from Robert Allen Gray) Write to Mrs. Ruth Talley Marlow, 1807 Tammany Dr., Nashville, TN 37216. For her family. They are from James M. Koonce who m. Susan Rowland, 1807.*

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## IVA LILLIAN DYBVIG

Iva Lillian Dybvig, born 27 March 1888, Sweet Valley Pennsylvania. Entered into rest 1 December 1981 at Duluth, Minnesota.

Services at Malvik Luthern Church, Guthrie, Minnesota.

Interment Malvik Luthern Church Cemetery, Guthrie, Minnesota.

Casket Berrers: John Koonce, Tom Schroeder, Bobby Schroeder, Wes Schroeder, Douglas Dybvig, John Farrazzi, Jr.

*(Iva was the maternal great grandmother to, Craig & Leah Koonce, children of John & Nancy Koonce)*



# Obituaries

## CALVIN L KOONCE, JR.

*(North Carolina line of Koonces)*

HOPE MILLS - Calvin L. Koonce Jr., 52, of 3646 Golfview Road died Thursday October 28, 1993 in Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, NC.

Mr. Koonce was a Major League baseball pitcher who played with the Chicago Cubs, the 1969 World Series champion New York Mets and the Boston Red Sox. He was the first general manager of the Fayetteville Generals minor league baseball team and a high school and college baseball coach.

He was the Hope Mills town manager and a member of the town board of commissioners.

The funeral will be conducted at 3 p.m. Sunday in Hope Mills United Methodist Church the Revs. Tommy Prevatte and Frank King, directed by Reeves Funeral Home. Burial will be in LaFayette memorial Park.

Mr. Koonce is survived by his wife, Peggy Koonce; a son, Christopher L. Koonce of Hope Mills; three daughters, Kimberly K. Owen of Ashland, VA, Kelly K. Taylor of Hope Mills and Kerry J. Koonce of Greensboro; his mother, Mary Koonce of Fayetteville; a sister, Marilyn Koonce of Asheboro; two brothers, Charles Koonce and Don Koonce, both of Fayetteville; and his maternal grandmother, Betty Johnson.

The family will receive friends tonight from 7 to 9 at Hope Mills United Methodist Church.

Memorials made to the Calvin L. Koonce Jr. Scholarship Fund, c/o Campbell University in Buies Creek.

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## IRENE LENA TEMPLER

*(Penn. Koonces; Received from Terry Leach)*

Irene Lena (Koonce) Templer, 75, passed away 11 February 1990 in Lowell, Indiana. She was born 27 October 1914 in Lowell. Irene was the eighth of eighteen children born to Francis Samuel and Matilde (Ceiga) Koonce. On 25 August 1934 she married Gerald Templer. Funeral services were held at the Sheets Funeral Home. Interment was in the Lowell Memorial Cemetery in Lowell.

## ROBERT SAMUEL KOONCE

*(Penn. Koonces; Received from Terry Leach)*

Robert Samuel Koonce, 75, died 25 January 1993. He was born 8 August 1917 in Lowell, Lake County Indiana. Robert was the tenth of eighteen children born to Francis Samuel and Matilde (Ceiga) Koonce.

On 21 December 1943 he married Hila (Jackie) Hatley.

Funeral services were held at Sheets Funeral Home on 28 January 1993. Clergyman was Pastor Larry Fugett. Interment was in Chapel Lawn memorial Gardens in Shererville, Indiana

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## MABEL JUNE (nee KOONCE) CUNNINGHAM

*(Penn. Koonces; Received from Terry Leach)*

Mabel June Cunningham, 74, of Lowell IN, was born 19 June 1923 in Lowell, Lake County, IN and passed away Friday morning, 25 July 1997.

She was the fourteenth of eighteen children born to Francis Samuel and Matilde (Ceiga) Koonce.

Mabel is survived by seven sons, Alfred Cunningham of Lowell, James (Sondi) Cunningham of Stonington, IL, Robert (Kathy) Cunningham of Chicago, Jerry (Elaine) Cunningham of Florida, Walter (Cherie) Cunningham of Crown Point, Clarence (Pebbie) Cunningham of California, Rex (Pam) Cunningham of Crown point, one daughter, Alice Dahl of Lowell, 22 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren; one brother, Alfred Koonce of Lowell; four sisters, Dorothy Wiseman, Velva Post, Pearl Ellsworth, all of Crown Point and Laura Leach of Lowell. She was preceded in death by her husband Lee, daughter, Betty Cambell and granddaughter, Kim Campbell.

Funeral services will be held Monday at 11 am at the Sheets Funeral Home, 604 E. Commercial Ave., Lowell, IN, Pastor Lorin Clemenz officiating. Burial will follow at Chapel Lawn Cemetery in Schererville, Mabel was a lifetime resident of Lowell, a member of the

Lowell Baptist Church, a dedicated volunteer for the Lake Co. Cancer Society and a former coach for the Lowell Bluebird Girls Softball Team.

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## JEFF DAVIS KOONCE

*North Carolina Koonce line*

*Obit received from Lowell & Jean Kamper*

Jeff Davis Koonce, age 94, of Stamps, Arkansas died Tuesday 26 August 1997 at the Homestead Manor nursing home in Stamps.

He was born 8 June 1903 at Pine Bluff Arkansas to James Evans Koonce and Mattie Greenlee. Jeff was the grandson of William Rite Koonce, Sr. and Elizabeth Barnes Evans.

Jeff was a member of the first United Methodist Church of Stamps, member of the men's Sunday school class and sang in the church choir. He was also a member of the Eastern Star and a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason and member of the Shrine. He had three brothers and one sister.

He was preceded in death by his son Lawrence Davis and wife.

He is survived by a number of nieces and nephews and a host of friends. Funeral services were held at 10:00 AM Thursday 28 August 1997 at the Smith Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Larry Ott and Rev Charles Walthall officiating with burial in the Lakeside Cemetery under the direction of Smith Funeral Home; Stamps Arkansas

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## DOROTHY MAE

**(nee KOONCE) WISEMAN**

*(Penn. Koonces; Received from Terry Leach)*

Wiseman, Dorothy M. (Koonce) (Lindy) (Loy) 78, of Crown Point, Indiana, passed away 6 September 1997. Dorothy was the eleventh of eighteen children born to Francis Samuel and Matilde (Ceiga) Koonce.

She was born in Lowell, Lake County, Indiana on 1 October 1918. On 7 January 1937 she married Don Lindy. On 7 January 1946 she married Silas Williams Loy, who died in 1963. Visitation at the Geisen Funeral Home, Crown point. Burial at Maplewood Cemetery, Crown Point

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# TESTAMENT TO MINNIE WINFIELD KOONCE

(Received from Dean Belin, Minnie's grand nephew, written by DuVal L. Purkins, Eagle Democrat. Minnie was a descendant of the NC line of Koonces.)

Minnie W. Koonce was a daughter of Richard Nixon and Nancy S. Koonce. She died in Dec. 1936.

I ran across a letter written September 18, 1936. It ended, "I wish I could write more, but I am unable now." The penmanship indicated age and physical weakness. The contents reflected mental strength, kindly and thoughtful spirit, and, a great soul always interested in the welfare of others. The author of that letter, miss Minnie Koonce, one of this community's great characters, was buried at Oakland Cemetery here last Sunday, her last message to me was actuated by her characteristic thoughts and acts for others, And such was the true measure of her long and useful life.

Life's currents and cross-currents ever appeal to me. After all, the folks I have met and know have proved to be the most stimulating and interesting incidents in the drama of the passing years. It was in the spring of 1812, I first met Miss Minnie Koonce. Then, I was a boy in college, devoting some little time to study, but manifesting a greater interest in

my social life, and chiefly my pursuit of the girl of my boyhood dreams. As things happen, a few days later I made my first visit to the Arkansas School for the Blind, where my girl and her chum were spending the night. Miss Minnie helped to make a timid, self-conscious boy feel at home on that memorable occasion to me. Years passed, and, as a Legislator, I had many pleasant contacts with Miss Minnie. Two thoughts were ever in her mind - the welfare of the boys and girls, who were blind; and, the welfare of her friends and neighbors in Bradley County - the place she loved as her home.

And so, this week's column is largely devoted to my departed friend, Miss Minnie. For forty years, she administered cheerfully, radiantly and motherly to Arkansas boys and girls, whose happiness depended so much upon the touch of a gentle and friendly hand. That which absorbed her busy life was her attention to the comfort and welfare of others, I am told that she gave so little thought to the salary she received that it was even necessary for the Superintendent to remind her it was pay day and to deliver th

salary warrant - the last employee to be paid.

Never blessed with children of her own, yet what a wonderful mother was Miss Minnie! How happily she consumed her life in mothering little folks, less fortunate than children with sight, Nursing them when they were sick and suffering; administering unto them when they were fatigued and restless; mothering then, when they were homesick and sad. I am thinking many of her little wards through those years can well sing:

*"Oh, Mother, when I think of thee*

*'Tis but a step to Calvary;*

*'Thy gentle hand upon my brow,*  
*is leading me to Jesus now."*

At her funeral, it was fitting that John XIV should be read - "the love chapter in the Bible, "In My fathers House are many mansions."

What a glorious mansion must be set apart for Miss Minnie's joy and happiness on her first Christmas in the Great Beyond! How full the rooms must be with evidences of love and gifts from that large troupe of boys and girls, whom she so tenderly, lovingly and tirelessly mothered for forty years!